Examine of issue of baptism and that commandment in Sabean Mandaean religion

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Abstract: Sabean Mandaean is one of the oldest monotheistic religions that their existence dates back to the period before Islam, so that is clear of Quran, Sabean also like Judaism, Christianity and Zoroastrianism have been an independent religion and have their prophets. Today, khouzestan, is observation community of sabean that freely do employment and education activities and do their religion practice especially the baptism in Karoun river. Baptism, is the most basic element of sabean Mandaean religion that is symbol of purity and is the presence of divine in human accomplishment. It should be noted that, the despite of sabean freedom in doing of religious and judgment of khou in Iraq “1975 m” and Khamenei in “solar 1375” as has been people book, their name in the constitution was not described as a religious minority.

Key words: Sabean Mandaen; Yahya Imam; Delivered; baptism; Containers Baptisms

1. Introduction

Sabean Mandaean, are ethnic Unitarian and people of Quran (mussulman) who live as anonymously in Khuzestan. The word of Sabean, in essence, is derivation of zephyr that is the silent word and it means Baptism. The sabean word is plural of saby that derivation of Hebrew root (s _ b_ a). It means that immersion in water (Dehkhuda, 1987). In Chaldean language, it means detergent (Chhardahi, 1973). In commentary book of Kashif, also, know sabean name due to frequent washing (BiAzar Shirazi, 1973).

Mnda, also is slow word that it means the knowledge and spirituality. It should be noted that the Mnda is synonymous with Gnosis Greek word (Ahmad Ali, 1994). Unfortunately, about create and the original homeland Sabean, has no information and data historical past and in government pass such as Assyria. Mad and bableand also in Jewish and Chaldean text. Even more all regrettably is lack of the Parthia government document in related to Mandaean that was to arrive mandaean in Iran and was their peace in this era. The oldest document that mention to sabean it’s of sabean own source that it names is Harran Gysa petition or internal crisis which refer to sabean migration path from Jerusalem to Mesopotamia.

Based on sabean texts (Gysa haran petition) them migration was 60 years after the death of prophet Yahya. One of the cause of migration sabean was violence and murder them by Jews, because of get sabean religious by Mariyya daughter of leather Jewish, Allazzer. Allazzer than was desperate of return of his daughter to Jews, do consult with the leather of Jewish people that the result of this consultation was Sabaen forced migration from their land Jerusalem. Jews were expelled Sabean from Jerusalem and if any one resist, were murder and plunder. Sabean after emigration from Jerusalem enter the Mesopotamian region and then Iran in Ashkani era in Ashkani era due to was freedom religion, Sabean had been in complete comfort so that can be Ashkani era considered as golden age. each this period with Sasanid and rogor priests toward religious minorities will soon be destroyed.

Sabean Mandaean based on sacred their texts, as Ginza Rba assert their sacred book, their existence give back to time of Adam era it means the first human. And based on this their calendar principle have been based on Prophet Adam birth. Of the most famous prophet of this people can be name Yahya Imam, son of zechariah of the Jewish prophets and her mother’s Inshoy that God bestowed them Yahya during they were old and decrepit. That the birth of this prophet was two years before of Jesus birth.

Imam Yahya was imprisoned based on a relative error that was in married Hyrodys king with Hyrodia that was king’s brother wife. Finally was killed and weak.

Is reminded that based on belief of Mandaen christening Mandaens existed since Adam era and Yahya Imam restored baptism that was forgotten.

Narrative that a Sunday that Yahya Imam during baptized ceremony was beside of Jordan River, a large number of sabean was ready for baptism and request of Yahya Imam that doen baptism him in Jordan waters. Yahya Imam accepted her request and done her baptism like other persons in river water.

Jesus after being baptized by Yahya imam does not follow the religious law of yahya Imam but set states a new prophetic mission that after a while
time a few number of Jews of him time invited to their faith.

2. Baptism

Baptism, glossary of terms it means that is intention to deliberate and authority (Porkazem, 1987). Baptism, in tribe forgotten book has known as origin of words syrianc and source of deliberate known as baptism that in Mandaen language this word pronounced vowelty (Porkazem, 1987). And the Saby word “immersed in water” for this reason refer to them. There are two type of cleansing in rituals Mandaen:

1. The official christening that done to for cleanliness and purity of soul and in this way that dine into the water under control of spiritual Mandaen
2. “Irrigation” or common baptisms that everyone can do it with go down in water or putting the shower.

The official christening Mandaen can do every day from morning to dusk only during the five day “in five day holy Mandaen” also can do the baptism in night.

“Irrigation” or common baptism can be done in every time that generally it is for autoerotism, dead touch, marriage relationship after a period, touch of a woman who done childbirth before of seven day of first day of her childbirth.

To begin the ceremony of baptism. clergymen Mandaen, in the beginning the morning of the baptism, beside the Karon river, start reading daily prayers from Anyaya book and then. Pay for baptism of Sydra book “baptism book” have aspect of spiritual cleansing and environmental baptism and creature wished withdrawal of environmental baptism and instead appears angles. After reading clerical prayers or the person with order of spiritual to verify clothing baptism.

Ordinance of Baptism:

1. All mandaeans at last in lifetime must be baptized.
2. People solvent (4 person) that will carry the corps a part from the regular washing should do a baptism.
3. The woman must be baptism after her childbirth.
4. All childbirth after thirty days of their birthdays needs to be baptism.
5. The Godfathers that done the baptism him infants once he must be baptism

(Without down baby clothes, while embraces the infant, instead of infant, spoken sentence and answer them.)

6. The bride and groom before of ceremony need to be baptism, twice. And one week after marriage also once must be done the baptism.

2.1. Method of Baptism

The first, the spiritual enter to river and stand to north and began to reading prayers from Sidra ad book “baptism book” that have aspect spiritual cleansing baptism environment and guides for baptism penitence then the spiritual picks few handfuls of water from the river and leaves around and formed a aura with her hand then the baptized come to the river, passing front the spiritual and behind of spiritual lay in right place and the spiritual pour water on the subject of spiritual baptism three time and then he took his right hand and come forward and leaves the crown that is branch of lilac, do ring and put it under urban of baptism, the crown is a symbol of wisdom and human perception after it the baptism read the verse “the trust to cure you” and in response the spiritual says: ask and request that your wishes will be fulfilled” then the baptism is removed from water and revolves around the “dish muddy” and read the verse of “god bless be on angels, holly place rivers, canals, the whole settlement lights.”

That it is in respect of existing angel in baptism ceremony because Mandaen believe that angels are existence in baptism ceremony and give evidence on ceremony. Dark grey in mandaen, furthermore, give a scent box to environment baptism, is preventing of evil and badness. Then the baptism sit forward to north and spiritual Mandaen anointing the forehead of the baptized with white sesame oil and sayed: “I suggest u with the suggest lord and name of lord and name of mysticism of lord remember on your mind.” After anointing, the scripture respondent testament of baptized that this testament is evidence on baptism ceremony and is penitence for them the spirits give to who have been baptized a Pahsa “consecrated bread that baked by the spiritual” and Mamboha “consecrated water that is from river” and they based on verse of Masota book with theme of: “Drink of Mamboha, Drink of river, rolling and leave it left” drink twice and three time leave the water forward to the left after it the spiritual read some verse of Masota book in order to him forgiveness and baptized and after it, the baptism ceremony get end and the baptized dropt her crown to the river and leave the baptism place.

In related to baptism In Sidra Adnshmata book is: angle do baptized us with her baptism and considered us with sign of his pure, great angle put on our head a happy Crown God river, where we have been baptized are evidence that do not reshape of our sign and change good words.

2.2. Mass baptism

When do the mass baptism that number of population is large (ex in festivals), this baptism is like as individual baptism. In the first, the spiritual do baptized all in water and then based on order of water and scared bread eat to them and done anointed with sesame oil.

2.3. Container baptism

Generally, it is obligatory be baptized the mental and crystal containers that the woman who have
childbed or bride and groom were in tough with them in first week of their marriage although apart from the above mentioned some of people do baptized their mental and crystal containers and even their gold and silver jewelry that this act is recommended. This baptism is done by the spiritual and the spiritual for three time do baptism them container and jewelry and read the verse of baptism and mentioned her names of that container or jewelry. The baptism of containers and jewelers have aspect of to bless accompanied by good for anyone who is using of them. But it's necessary mentioned that container baptism should be done accompanied by person baptism and not separately done baptized the containers. In a petition, TerserShyala in related to container baptism there is: objects and containers that would be baptism such as (bowl, glass, tin, copper or iron) bring it and the spiritual do baptism and to thrust it in river and do baptized it with read the target prayer and bring it out and get it with hand left and rolled it in water with the right hand then bring in water for three times and mention on it God names.

3. Conclusion

According to the subjects that collected in this study, the author has tried to describe a totally summery of baptism, the main element of Sabean Mandaean. As we know, sabean were Unitarian as following of other religions, be faithfull although that the sabean unknown live in Khuzestan and are in oriented but as continues to their life. Baptism is boundaries of purity and impurity that is continues Mandaean Gnosticism and mandaean comparing of pass to the present. This element indicated that Mandaean is one Gnostic religion that light and darkness constantly are in conflict with each other. And this conflict in the end in shadow baptism get victory in the end. Hierarchy of purity and goodness and required of baptism that totally have source infinity, will be done under baptism and are represents of purity in Unitarian faith. According to narrative Mandaean, running water of the world of good current on surface of earth and with herself has back brought life. Current water of life water is attribute to name of God and in this respect, in contrast, stagnant water is sewage. Current water is only element that in view of Mandaean inherently is clear & clear that all of this under baptism do clean their flowing and clean it.

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