

A sunset scene over a body of water. The sun is a bright, glowing orb in the upper center, casting a long, shimmering golden reflection down the water. The sky is a deep orange, and the horizon is dark with silhouettes of trees and a small boat. The overall mood is serene and peaceful.

Manichaeian Beliefs

With References from the Ketava Kudsha

**“As a true child of Light you must remain sound
in the Religion of Light if you desire to receive the
promised reward and you must stand up for the pure
and blessed teachings from the Father of Greatness
reproving those who are among us
who do not walk on the Path of Light.”**

(Mitraya 17:15)

A Note from the Publisher

This publication was compiled by H.H. Mar Innai Kharba of the Patriarkuta d'Maninaye in Portland, Oregon (USA), reviewed and endorsed by the Manichaeian Worldwide Organisational Committee.

It is published to serve as a tool in facilitating the study of the Manichaeian Holy Book of Light known as the Ketava Kudsha d'Maninaye in showing the correlation of Manichaeian beliefs with the text of the Holy Book itself.

Please bear in mind that the chapter and verse references are from the draft manuscripts of the 2nd Ed. of the Ketava Kudsha. This pamphlet will be updated if necessary after the latest edition of the Ketava Kudsha is printed.

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Manichaeian Beliefs

With References from the Ketava Kudsha

1. There is One True God.

“Praise be to You, O Aten, who rises as the One God in the circle above the earth.”

- Maz. d'Mitzrin 3:2

“You shall worship the One God and not commit yourself to the worship of idols; not bowing down to physical objects or ideals in order to worship them.”

- Mal. d'Shlike 1:34

“And this he teaches: To worship and fear one God, the ruler of all things, and Isho Mashikha his Son, that they may have eternal life.”

- Acts of Tuma 9:112

“The Twin was sent from Mihr Yazd, the Word of the One God. Sent from the Primal Man, the King of the Stars, and the Gardens of Light.”

- Acts of Mani 4:4

“During this period, King Ardashir restore Mazdaism, a sect of the Zarathustrian religion denied Zurvan, the One God beyond all Creation. A sect that taught a profane form of dualism.”

- Acts of Mani 5:2

“But they came together to worship the One God in full faith.”

- Mitraya 1:8

“He has always instructed them to covenant with the One God in Faith.”

- Adv. of Mir Izgadda 1:2

“Worship the One God, praised be His Name, and trust in my promise to save you from the turbulent waves of the deep ocean that is the world.”

- Mit. Mir Izgadda 2:2

“Liberation is achieved through the worship of the One God, acceptance of His Divine Messenger, and cultivation of the Twelve Virtues and Holy Commandments.”

- Mit. Mir Izgadda 6:11

“Worship the One God who is outside of time and creation; abandon idolatry.”

- Mit. Mir Izgadda 6:12

“You shall worship the One God and not commit yourself to the worship of idols; not bowing down to physical objects or ideals in order to worship them.”

- Mit. Mir Izgadda 8:15

“What was once a religion of unity in worship of one God, Hinduism has become a house of demons with its idolatry.”

- Mit. Mir Izgadda 23:1

“The Worship of, and Prayer to the One God is the natural state of the soul.”

- Mit. Mir Izgadda 26:9

“You shall worship the One God and not commit yourself to the worship of idols; not bowing down to physical objects or ideals in order to worship them.”

- Precepts 2:2

“This is the Vow of the Maninaye Faithful: I vow to seek the Horizon of the One God Il'Ya by taking refuge through Mir Izgadda and receive solace at the Sacred Mountain.”
- Precepts 7:1

“Il'Ya, before all those present, before the witnesses of the Horizon of Light and the Paradise Worlds and the Great Temple of of the Religion of Light, I do formally swear that there is only One God of the Universe and it is You, Il'Ya!”
- Precepts 7:15

“And we looked upon its splendour and took notice that there were none among the children of God who were bringing harm to one another, for all lived in harmony and in worship of the One God, the Father of Greatness and the Spirit of holiness, and in reverence and obedience to His Son Mir Izgadda the Living Spirit, and in honour of the Prophet Mar Mani Khaila, the Teacher of Light.”
- Prophecy of Trees 3:1

2. All creation is one and subsists within the One Created Being; we are all part of the One Created Being.

“An awakening soul is one that sees the inherent oneness of all souls, regardless of gender.”
- Kar. of Tuma 8:17

“The Third Messenger is in the soul and the soul resides in Mihr Yazd.”
- Kar. of Tuma 8:25

“The consistent message of Isho to His disciples is that of oneness of the Soul.”
- Kar. of Tuma 17:7

“He taught me the Mystery of the creation of Adam, the First Man (not to be confused with the Primal Man, the One Created Being of who we are all apart)”
- Acts of Mani 4:11

“Through Him I have seen the Whole (the Entirety, the Oneness of Creation) and with this, I have become One Body and One Spirit with all life.”
- Acts of Mani 4:17

“We know that all of us are in the Living One (the One Created Being of whom we are all apart), but we have only become alive in this knowledge now that you have come to us; we have found the Truth more than all men who are in the world.”
- Acts of Mani 11:28

“O Being of the Light, You have sent me and commissioned me; speedily hear my petition! Save the captive out of the hands of those who have robbed him, loose the fettered one from the iron! Draw up my spirit of this earthly statue (they physical body), so that that it may enter the Great Statue (the One Created Being, the Primal Man) formed of the benevolent souls of Creation.”
- Acts of Mani 24:15

“Because we are all one within the One Created Being, there is a spiritual symbiotic relationship, and this goes beyond the physical but also relates to our emotions and thoughts about our spiritual siblings in general.”
- Mal. of Mani 1:10

“All things in life are connected in one way or another; all things are dependent upon one another.. Look at the bread that you consume – it is connected to the sun and

to the rain; it was the sun and the rain that nourished the wheat in the fields which was later harvested by the farmer, and gathered up and made into bread for your nourishment.. In the same way, you are connected to the sun and to the rain. We are all connected to the universe. When you come to realise this interdependence you will see the importance of not striving after victory over others and all arguments and striving will fall by the wayside.”

- Mal. of Mani 5:7-11

“All humanity is one family and resides within the One Created Being.”

- 2 Vizier 10:2

3. All life is governed by the One Created Being of God and the celestial servants that are contained within Him.

“Give proper homage to the Son (Mihr Yazd), lest he be angry, and you perish on the way, for his wrath will soon be kindled. Blessed are all those who take refuge in him.”

- Dawida 2:12

“Then Mihr Yazd created the universe and, having brought the three other Powers, and gone down into the physical creation, he led the Rulers up and fastened them in the Firmament which is their sphere.”

- Kar. of Mani 5:5

“Mihr Yazd, the Living Spirit, made the Wheels — the Wind, the Water and the Fire; and he went down and formed them below near Sabala, the Supporter.”

- Kar of Mani 8:1

“Where Mihr Yazd decrees a thing, no power on earth can stop such a thing from occurring in all Creation.”

- Acts of Mani 1:8

4. All physical matter is deemed illusion in that it is not permanent. All that is Light is deemed real because it is eternal.

“For about these there is no manner nor place, nor anything else of all things that are (That are real, as they are impermanent and therefore they are only an illusion.)”

- Trismegistus 14:4

“Our conception of beginning and ending is one born out of illusion.”

- Kar. of Tuma 7:9

“Isho said, "Whoever has come to understand the world has found (only) a corpse, and whoever has found a corpse is superior to the world." [To understand the world is to understand it is an illusion.]”

- Kar. of Tuma 13:36-37

“Isho said, "He who has recognized the world has found the body, but he who has found the body is superior to the world." [The person who understands matter is illusion has a destiny beyond the illusion.]”

- Kar. of Tuma 18:13-14

“If we liberate our souls from our petty selves, wish no ill to others, and become clear as a crystal diamond reflecting the light of Truth, what a radiant picture will appear in us mirroring things as they are,

without the admixture of burning desires, without the distortion of erroneous illusion, without the agitation of clinging and unrest.”

- Barana 1:30

“Let Your Great Power come to rescue me; send Your Mighty Angel to save me from the hands of malice, and that I may throw off my fetters on the earth and surrender the house that is the physical body to its lord, is the evil one (the illusion of matter/Maya); and she will shed blood and watch over her body.)”

-Acts of Mani 24:17

“Do not become dependent on the illusory world. The material world is full of illusions and all sorts of false things. Through full devotion to the Pure Teaching, you can become free from the darkness.”

- Mitraya 2:12-14

“Do not be concerned with forms and images. Forms and images, as are all things of this world, are illusions and subject to impermanence. The only thing that remains is the truth.”

- Mal. of Mani 3:5-7

“Forms are only illusions; do not cause pain for others with your words or actions and do not wish misfortune upon anyone.”

- Mal. of Mani 3:12

“Do not think, my child, that all souls re-enter this world, but the truth is, most souls enter either into one of the celestial realms or one of the lower realms and do not receive a physical body in the world of matter and illusion again.”

- Awakening Soul 3:7

5. The soul is a spark of the Eternal Light trapped in the illusion of matter.

“These are the sacred words which Maran Isho spoke and Mar Tuma wrote them down. Isho said to his disciples: "He who is able to come to a full understanding of the words shall not taste death." [The light spark that awakens to the Light Message present in the teaching of Isho is Eternal.]”

- Kar. of Tuma 1:1-2

“In the days when you were eating that which is dead, you were making it alive." [The light trapped in matter, through being consumed by the individual, releases that light. In this way, that which was destined to die with the flesh, attained a new chance at life through the individual who consumed it by becoming part of them.]”

- Kar. of Tuma 4:11-13

“Then the disciples said to Isho: 'Tell us, Lord, how shall we die?' Isho said: 'Have you then discovered the beginning, that you seek after the end? For where the beginning is, there shall the end be. Blessed is he who shall stand in the beginning, and he shall know the end and shall not taste of death.' [Isho is telling His apostles that since they do not know what their Natural State is, they cannot really understand what concepts such as 'birth' and 'death' really mean at all. The light spark has always been part of the Living Spirit. It was born with the Living Spirit and as the Living Spirit cannot die, the awakened soul cannot die. Our conception of beginning and ending is one born out of illusion. In our true state, we are not born and we cannot die. We are the Eternal Soul.]”

- Kar. of Tuma 7:3-10

“Isho said, 'The images are manifest to man, but the light in them remains concealed in the image of the light of the Father. He will become manifest, but his image will remain concealed by his light.' [Isho is saying that mankind cannot see the true nature of the light trapped in matter because we use physical senses to evaluate physical matter. The divine light within remains hidden from us at this point, as we are now.]”

- Kar. of Tuma 18:20-22

“Isho said, 'Woe to the flesh that depends on the soul; woe to the soul that depends on the flesh.' [The flesh is the light imprisoned in the physical creation. . . Because it is held captive it cannot be liberated without the aid of the One Soul. By itself, it cannot awaken. The soul trapped in the flesh has entered physical creation to liberate the Light but has become trapped itself. The soul that looks to the flesh as the means of its awakening and liberation, is destined to fail.]”

- Kar. of Tuma 23:6-10

“ Again at the end he joined with them, he stood up in silence, he drew up the Light-Sparks until the final moment when he should awake and stand in the Great Fire, and gather his own Soul (all the redeemed reunited with and in him) to himself and form himself into this Last Statue , which is the last Hour of the Day, the time when the Last Statue will go up to the Aeon of the Light.”

- Kar. of Mani 83:2

“The One Soul was sent into Creation to redeem all the light that had been entrapped.”

- 1 Vizier 1:3

“All the Hearers at that time were taken up into the celestial heights and were given their reward and were united with the Living Spirit as in ancient times before the darkness had stolen the Light and trapped it within matter.”

- Prophecy of Trees 4:6

“In doing so, one shall feel deep compassion for all living things trapped in within the limitations of samsara; and perceive the world suffering under them.”

- Mahavira 10:7

6. All suffering in the world is rooted in our ignorance of our true nature and due to our distraction from the real purpose in life.

“In this world full of pain, suffering by their different acts, see the intellectually ignorant ones cause great pain.”

- Mahavira 1:5

“Also the fool, suffering from enslavement to the passions, delights in bad acts here, mistaking that for salvation, but for which there is none.”

- Mahavira 11:2

“When any Messenger of the Light appears in the world to teach and convert the host of living beings in order to save them from their sufferings, he begins by bringing the sound of the wonderful Law down through the gate of their ears.”

- Kar. of Mani 32:1

“When all living beings saw your revelation, they were inspired and desired only to escape from the suffering of cyclical Samsara.”

- Maz. d'Maninayuta 34:48

“By his disobedience, man has brought himself, and all other creatures, into all the ills and sufferings of this state of vanity.”

- Sadhu 34:6

“God does not bring evil into the world; a man who is without a god creates evil and makes suffering through wrongful desire. Wrongful desire is the illusion based on the false assumption in which you crave, eventually leading to suffering.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 3:17-18

7. True religion is sent into the world to awaken mankind to its true nature and provides the means to return to its true home beyond the physical universe.

“The Word of Truth contains within it the Holy Commandments. The Word of Truth contains within it the Religion of Light.”

- Barana 6:2

“The Messengers of the Light, glorious and kindly let them stand by this true Religion, and guard, keep and preserve it in its purity!”

- Kar. d'Mar Mani 46:3

“As a true child of Light you must remain sound in the Religion of Light if you desire to receive the promised reward and you must stand up for the pure and blessed teachings from the Father of Greatness reproving those who are among us who do not walk on the Path of Light.”

-Mitraya 17:15

“Rukha Khaya is sending a covenant from His own hands and full instructions and answers will be provided to you in the Way of Truth and Light for the complete

establishment of the Religion of Light for the liberation of souls.”

- Adv. of Mir Izgadda 4:19

“You see, my precious children, the ship that I speak of is the Ship of Life which is the Religion of Light that is able to bring salvation to all humanity.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 3:4

“Liberation is not found in any earthly or worldly religious organisation, but can be found in the practice of the Religion of Light.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 6:20

“True religion is a relationship between you and God.”

- 1 Vizier 5:2

8. All true religion comes through Divine Revelation.

“Those who have performed works without having arrived at a proper knowledge of Il'Ya and His religion, go, after death, to those worlds of the spirits and are given the opportunity to learn and to live and receive rest in the Lord.”

- Ašakhta d'Awraham 2:2

“In the end, no enemy of the Faith shall endure the wrath of the celestial beings appointed by Abba d'Rabbuta for the protection of the Religion of Light.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 9:7

“By continually cultivating these qualities your eyes will see increased Light and your walk upon the earth will be a reflection of that same Light.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 11:24

“The Manichaeian religion is alive and its adherents are full of joy in their service to God and their fellow man.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 18:3

“When you convert to Manichaeism, you are converting to the Religion of Light, not to an authoritarian organisation or new religious movement. Manichaeians belong to God and not to an organisation.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 18:7

“The Religion of Light, called Manichaeism, seeks only to present the pristine revelation of the Great Father to humanity.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 18:17

9. The worship of, and prayer to the One God is the natural state of the soul. (Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 26:9)

“The soul yearns to return to its home, and through gnosis, awareness, cultivation of the Virtues, and adherence to the Ten Admonishments [Commandments], the soul seeks to worship the One God Who resides outside of time and creation as it is known to humanity.”

- Mir Izgadda (unpublished text)

10. Cultivation of Virtue and the rejection of vice are methods in which one refines the soul.

“The wise individual places the development of the Mind of Light and the cultivation of virtue above anything that the world has to offer.”

- Kar. of Tuma 17:24

“People of faith should help their brothers and sisters, whatever their situation in life may be, if those brothers and sisters wish to have help. Through the cultivation of

the Virtues and observing the Commandments, the future effects of karma can be changed.”

- Mal. of Mani 1:25-26

“The beginning of this process of transformation to the Way of Perfection is the cultivation of the Virtues and the inner and outward change of the various characteristics.”

- Adv. of Mir Izgadda 5:37

“Liberation is achieved through the worship of the One God, acceptance of His Divine Messenger, and cultivation of the Twelve Virtues and Holy Commandments.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 6:11

“Cultivate the Twelve Virtues: Royalty, Wisdom, Victory, Contentment, Purity, Truth, Faith, Patience, Sincerity, Kindness, Justice, and Light. The cultivation of the Twelve Virtues will draw you closer to God.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 6:14

“Someone who is in union with God shows evidence of his drawing close to God through living a virtuous life, even while in the human shell. Cultivate the Twelve Virtues in perfection and you shall find yourself living outside of the worries of the world. When you have perfected the practice of the Virtues you will shine brightly in the world for others and they shall see your light and those who have ears to hear and eyes to see shall give glory to God.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 7:1-3

11. Laying aside of attachments eases the soul's ascension and return to the Eternal Kingdom of Light.

“Unable to let go of the physical attachments of this world, people are careless, they suffer day and night, work toward pointless goals, desire wealth and treasures, commit injuries and violent acts, distract the mind, again and again.”
- Mahavira 3:1

“While they imitate the life of pious people, saying, 'We shall be free from attachment,' they enjoy the pleasures of this world with reckless abandon.”
- Mahavira 3:10

“Those who are freed from attachment to the world and its pleasures, reach the opposite shore.”
- Mahavira 3:13

“He should not accept, nor cause others to accept, or permit them to accept anything unclean (that comes by way of the suffering of others or leads to attachments).”
- Mahavira 4:17

“Many are attached to something in the world--be it little or much, small or great, sentient or non-sentient--they are attached to it here amongst many people of this world. It is because of this attachment that some incur great danger. For him who contemplates the course of the world and does not acknowledge these attachments there is no such danger.”
- Mahavira 12:1-2

“I have heard this, and it is in my innermost heart; and the freedom from bonds is in your innermost heart. He who has ceased (to have worldly attachments), the renunciate, suffers with patience a long time.”
- Mahavira 12:6

“Thus a man who exerts himself, and is of a steady mind, without attachment, unmoved by passion but restless in wandering about, having no worldly desires, should lead the life of an ascetic.”
- Mahavira 16:16

“I renounce all attachments, whether little or much, small or great, living or lifeless; neither shall I myself form such attachments, nor cause others to do so, nor consent to their doing so.”
- Mahavira 18:26

“Those whose mind is well grounded in the elements of knowledge, who without clinging to anything, rejoice in freedom from attachment, whose appetites have been conquered, and who are full of light, are free even in this world.”
- Gautama 6:14

“Let, therefore, no man depend anything except Ilaha; dependence on that which is worldly is attachment. Those who love nothing but Ilaha and hate nothing, have no fetters.”
- Gautama 16:3

“So long as there is emotional attachment of one person towards another, even the smallest that is not destroyed, this is how long that their minds will be in bondage, as the calf that drinks milk is to its mother.”
- Gautama 20:12

“I do not call a man a pure one because of his origin or of his mother. He is indeed arrogant, and he is wealthy: but the poor, who is free from all attachments, him I call indeed a pure one.”

- Gautama 26:14

“Him I call indeed a pure one who has traversed this miry road; the impassable world and its vanity, who has gone through, and reached the other shore, is thoughtful, guileless, free from doubts, free from attachment, and content.”

- Gautama 26:32

“The One Soul entered Matter free of worldly attachments, once finished with its mission to liberate the light trapped in matter, it would once again return Home in Bahisht, free of worldly attachments.”

- Kar. of Tuma 9:24

“Isho said, 'Blessed are the poor, for yours is the Kingdom of Heaven.' [Isho is not extolling the virtues of poverty, in the sense of individuals starving or freezing or unable to care for their children, Isho is stating that those who are free from material attachments, have very little to leave behind and because of this, they enter the Heavenly realms with relative ease.]”

- Kar. of Tuma 13:31-32

“Isho said, 'Let him who has grown rich be king, and let him who possesses power renounce it.' [Neither wealth nor worldly power make a person a worthy ruler, a spirit free of earthly attachment is a wise soul, such leadership is valued.]”

- Kar. of Tuma 18:15-16

“Isho said, 'When you see your likeness, you rejoice. But when you see your images

which came into being before you, and which neither die nor become manifest, how much you will have to bear!' [While many souls leave the physical shell and ascend on the Ships of Light to Bahisht, there are those who have lived many lives in order to work through their attachments to this world. Of those, there will come a time when they are awakened to these incarnations, images they do not recognize, choices they do not remember making, actions they do not remember taking, and having to comprehend all of this will be difficult to come to terms with.]”

-Kar. of Tuma 18:23-26

“Isho said, 'Woe to the Pharisees, for they are like a dog sleeping in the manger of oxen, for neither does he eat nor does he let the oxen eat.' [The Pharisees are those who take up positions of authority in religion, but do not understand the Light Message. If they did, they would humble themselves before Abba d'Rabbuta, they would work to develop the Light Mind within themselves and work toward cultivating virtue and laying aside worldly attachments. Because they do not, they not only limit themselves, they end up limiting the faithful who look to them for guidance.]”

- Kar. of Tuma 21:14-17

“Isho said, 'Whoever finds the world and becomes rich, let him renounce the world.' [One becomes rich through Gnosis. Such a person should act upon what they have learned and lay aside the attachment to this world.]”

- Kar. of Tuma 23:1-2

“Pattiq devoted himself to his new religion, preaching on the importance of laying aside worldly attachments in order to spiritually perfect.”

- Acts of Mani 2:8

“Of these two snakes, one is the person who loves the body, for whom bearing the tail (attachment to the world) is troublesome, but who is unconcerned about the soul. And his tail is long.”

- Parables 2:28

“There is very little poison (sin) in him and his attachment to the world is very weak, and the fetters binding his soul are very thin.”

- Parables 2:30

“Therefore you being confident, O holy Righteous one, and free from the need of worldly attachments, teach the faithful to read books that bring illumination.”

- Maz. d'Maninayuta 6:12

“For those tied to the root of attachment to the world, you revealed the road to the realm of the Buddhas, you raised a Sumeru mountain of virtue, you let them find endless happiness.”

- Maz. d'Maninayuta 34:18

“All my body is meant to dry up one day, so do not care to put too much oil on it. This body is here only to serve people. All the living beings, animals, flowers, plants, and stones have been given a form by God and this body has been given by God to perform a duty in this world. So even my own body has come only to perform a duty and to serve all human and living beings. But when human beings come in this world, they forget their duty and they fall into the attachment of Maya and into the concepts of 'me' and 'mine' and so they forget God.”

- Babaji 1:11-15

“The initial purification of the heart, mind, eyes and hands first comes through wisdom generated by true prayer, study of the Manichaeon scriptures and perseverance in the removal of attachments.”

-Adv. of Mir Izgadda 5:30

“Having firmly established your faith and trust in the Third Messenger, having abandoned wrongful desires and attachments, having removed all darkness from your soul – you shall eventually go to abide in the Kingdom of Light which is beyond the realm of darkness and matter, where the Pure Teaching abounds, where all manners of enlightened beings walk in the Way of Perfection, learning the Pure Teaching unobstructed.”

- Adv. of Mir Izgadda 5:36

“A person can begin walking in purity and in truth by awakening and having no attachments to this world. Attachments to the things of the world are like chains that will bind you to an eternity of darkness.. When you can not abandon attachments, you are like an anchor that has fallen from its connection to a great ship and has sunk to the bottom of the deep ocean and forgotten by the ship master. You see, my precious children, the ship that I speak of is the Ship of Life which is the Religion of Light that is able to bring salvation to all humanity. The deep ocean is the world that entices humanity to all sorts of evils and is full of darkness. The ship master is the Living Spirit who comes to ferry you to the Other Shore where there are Gardens of Light and where no darkness – not even a shadow – can be found.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 3:1-6

“It is much easier for a soul to accept the Truth after death than it is while bound in chains (the physical body and attachments) on the earth.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 4:15

“Clinging to concepts about God is attachment; God is what God is without your interpretations and assumptions.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 12:5

“As the wings of the moth become wet from the rain, so does one's mind become heavy with his or her clinging to concepts and not abandoning attachments.”

-Mal. of Mani 3:4

12. All unnecessary use of force is anathema to human development.

“And now fear not, you righteous, when you see the sinners growing strong and prospering in their ways, do not be friends with them, but keep far away from their violence; for you shall become friends of the hosts of heaven.”

- Ašakhté d'Enokh 37:6

“Put down fury, check violence, you who wish to strengthen the promotion of good mind through righteousness, because a progressive man is associated with this. God, his associates are in Your abode.”

- Zarathustra 12:5

“He is a wise man who perfectly knows ahimsa (non-violence), who searches after the liberation of the bound.”-Mahavira 6:11

“A man is not righteous if he carries a matter by violence; no, he who distinguishes both right and wrong, who is learned and leads others, not by violence, but by law and equity, and who is guarded by the Three Pillars and intelligent, he is called righteous.”

- Gautama 19:1

“If your hands are free from violence, the pleading of your speech shall be heard”

- Kar. of Mani 54:17

“Mani never taught that a person was required to abstain from sexual conduct, only to avoid sex addiction, obsession, perversion, and immorality, to abandon the passions, yet the ignorant and the wicked choose to propagate a false message about a True Servant of Il'Ya. Mani never taught Ahimsa, that being the philosophy of never using force, even if justified. He taught against unnecessary violence and cruelty, to strive for peace as opposed to war whenever possible, but he always taught the necessity to fight against the Minions of the Evil One, whether, physical or spiritual; that to do otherwise was to create victims for those who would act as predators in the world. Non violence was the standard, Non-violence even when circumstances demand otherwise, was never the rule and Mar Mani never taught such a thing. And yet the ignorant and the wicked choose to propagate a false message about a True Servant of Il'Ya.”

-Acts of Mani 1: 21-24

“The theory of non-violence has spoiled the mind and courage of people today. I am for fighting; fighting against the evil and crime everywhere, which should no longer be tolerated. Remove unrighteousness from the world. Even if you have to shed blood like a river, you must be prepared to do any act to protect righteousness on the earth. I am against non-violence that makes a human being a coward. Righteousness can only be saved by the shedding of blood. His is revolution, and have you ever heard of a revolution without blood being shed? That is why you must become alert and become the true lover of your religion.”

-Babaji 1:4-10

“Never return harm for harm, but return compassion even for your enemy.”
- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 29:14

“You battle hatred with love, not more hate.”
- 1 Vizier 8:1

13. All obsessions and addictions are manifestations of attachment.

“Mani never taught that a person was required to abstain from sexual conduct, only to avoid sex addiction, obsession, perversion, and immorality, to abandon the passions, yet the ignorant and the wicked choose to propagate a false message about a True Servant of Il'Ya.”
-Acts of Mani 1:21

“If a person has become homeless and without food or money because they lost their finances due to their addiction to gambling, the person brought this upon himself.”
- Mal. of Mani 4:5

“Everything on the planet was offered to humanity for its use and enjoyment. Sometimes this is food, music, clothes, and many other gifts of nature. Even substances such as alcohol or tobacco, if taken in moderation, for casual enjoyment, are not the evils that much of society would like the world to believe. That being said, there is the very real issue of substance abuse. For those who are prone to such addiction, the casual intake of such intoxicants can be lethal. For those persons, it is urged that they avoid such substances for their own welfare and the welfare of others. This does not mean that all society must abstain from these things. Wisdom dictates that moderation

and temperance are the best course of action with any substance that can be abused.”
- 2 Vizier 2:1-7

14. All men, women, all races, tribes, nationalities and sexual orientations are equal.

“And by Him the generations spoke to one another, and those that were silent acquired speech. And from Him came love and equality, and they spoke one to another that which was theirs.”
- Odes of Sol. 11:12-13

“Abba d'Rabbuta looks with a kind heart equally on all living beings, and they therefore call him Father.”
-Barana 8:1

“We are all equal, despite the country we come from, and national differences should be ignored. We are all a unity. We must shed all jealousy and envy because they are harmful. We are all one with each other and with God. Everyone should forget nationality: we are one here. This is a universal family. Have no idea of separation of identity: discard feelings of separateness. Serve the people with mind, body, wealth, brain... This is one earth. Do not be divided by thinking of yourselves as belonging to different countries. We belong to one earth. My aim is to benefit the whole world - not just one individual or one country.”
- Babaji 12:5-16

“My disciples know and exhibit the quality of equality. They do no harm either in action or in speech towards anyone who they believe might be different than them, regardless of their race, gender, sexual

orientation, or financial status. My disciples stand up as heralds – as a united voice calling for equality for all humanity, knowing that all humanity is from one source, and that all are brothers and sisters within creation.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 9:13-15

“Those who know me also know that I teach the qualities of tolerance, equality, balance and patience. If you are my disciple, a child of Light, you know the importance of practising and exhibiting these four qualities of tolerance, equality, balance and patience. In these four qualities is found two of the most important qualities of all, which are love and peace.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 11:13-14

“All that which is in opposition to tolerance, equality, balance and patience only serve as obstacles upon the path to perfection in the Light.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 11:18

“Do not think that the Religion of Light places one race of humans above others. Manichaeism teaches equality of all races and nationalities.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 18:5

“Manichaeans do not support organisations or patronise businesses that are against equal rights. Manichaeans believe all races, nationalities, genders and sexual orientations are equally deserving of respect. Manichaeans support peaceful protest of institutes and businesses that do not respect equality and justice.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 18:14-16

“Refrain from judging others due to their gender, social status, ethnicity, colour, nationality, or sexuality. Practice equality. Reject biases.”

- Mal. of Mani 3:10

“All are equal and blessed in many ways. More than this, no gender can live independent of the other.”

- 2 Vizier 10:11

“There is a third gender that is equal in every way to the other two.”

- 2 Vizier 10:14

“Men and women of all three genders should not only tolerate one another, they should also bestow upon one another equal rights – not only in society but also in their minds and hearts, they should transcend this and love one another as brothers and sisters in the Presence of Il'Ya.”

- 2 Vizier 10:26

15. The lives of the innocent, which also includes animal life, deserves to be protected.

“He who inflicts pain on innocent and harmless persons and offends those who are inoffensive, will soon come to one of these ten states.”

- Gautama 10:9

“We respect our neighbours who follow Muhammad when they respect the fact that all humanity is equal before God and when they no longer desire to wage war against the innocent or those they perceive to be evil.”

- Mitraya 7:4

“Like many other Christian sects, the Eastern Orthodox Church is guilty of oppressing and actively persecuting the innocent who identify with the gay and lesbian community. Such actions on the part of that sectarian religious group are contrary to the teaching of Christ.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 23:18-19

“The evils committed by leaders within the Roman Catholic Church upon innocent children – as appalling as such atrocities are – has actually helped to expose the vile thoughts of such leadership to the world. Their deacons, priests, bishops, archbishops, cardinals and popes are not innocent in these matters.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 23:22-23

“Islam is guilty of the murder of millions of innocent people and thousands of Manichaeans sons and daughters.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 23:27

“There are many innocent souls who remain in such false religious groups, not by their choice but because of being trapped by family members or spouses and other reasons. Many innocent women and children are trapped in Islam and continue to suffer atrocities at the hands of evil husbands and fathers. These innocent ones still have the opportunity to gain life through the Third Messenger.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 23:34-36

“The subject of the innocent being exploited is close to my heart, knowing that many innocent individuals in the world have been caught up in such darkness as slavery and sex trade in nearly every land around the world.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 25:11

“Men who bring atrocities and harm to children and other innocents will be repaid a hundred fold for their crimes. I will not tolerate those who bring suffering upon innocent souls – for such criminals will never be permitted within the Holy Gates of the Religion of Light. One of the responsibilities of those who have become defenders of Truth is to protect the innocent from unnecessary suffering from the hands of those who wish to do harm to the Children of Light.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 28:1-3

“The earth is filled with the blood of the innocent Saints – the Brethren and Children of Mar Mani.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 28:5

“In a malevolent and violent world that seeks to subjugate the innocent and that takes great joy at the suffering of all life, there is a need for a corrective process of military action in such cases. Never to create further suffering of the innocent but to bring an end to the machinations of the wicked. In a world that embraces evil, military action is a necessity to save the very lives of the innocent. It is dependent on who is waging war and if their motives are pure. If not, then such militarism is deemed evil and a blight on humanity.”

- 2 Vizier 1:4-5

“In this world, there is no more precious resource than innocence. Il'Ya loves the innocent dearly. Any mistreatment in any way of the innocent comes at a severe punishment for the wicked. For the faithful, there can be no greater virtue than to protect the innocent from cruelty and suffering. Conversely, for a Manichaean, one of the greatest sins that could ever be committed is the mistreatment of the

innocent. If any person were to inflict suffering on the innocent and believe this will go unpunished, they do not know Il'Ya.”
- 2 Vizier 2:10-14

“Families that cause this type of abuse but cover this up to give the pretence of normalcy, only fool themselves. If any Manichaeans were to know of such abuse, they are honour bound by their faith to alert the authorities to help bring an immediate end to the suffering of innocents.”
- 2 Vizier 2:15-16

“There is no greater opposition to the concept of 'To Do No Harm' than to bring an end to an innocent human life.”
- 2 Vizier 3:3

“Il'Ya assigns celestial beings to watch over the souls of all children slain in this manner and the retribution directed at those who have killed these innocents, regardless of their intentions, will not go unpunished.”
- 2 Vizier 3:6

“The civil authorities reserve the right to safeguard the innocent and bring to justice those who are guilty and to punish them to the extent warranted by their crimes.”
- 2 Vizier 3:12

“...while many wish for world peace... a greater number care nothing for peace unless it comes at the expense of the lives of the innocent.”
- 2 Vizier 4:4

16. The love of God can be experienced by humanity through the love, compassion, kindness and selfless service of the faithful.

“The brother who acts with kindness, who is calm in the doctrine of the wise, will reach the blessed rest, cessation of natural desires, and happiness.”
- Gautama 25:9

“Within each of these Flowers countless evolved Illuminates (Changing Buddhas, Transforming Buddhas) in turn and ceaselessly evolve their numberless persons, who are the armour of kindness, the strong-walled courts, the wonder-forms of the essence and flower of the world.”
- Kar. of Mani 31:4

“Ever honest and true are the minds and thoughts of the Saints, enlightened and with wondrous kindness, freely enjoying the spiritual body and mind in the sweetly scented air and counting neither years nor months, nor hours and days, being void of birth and death and mundane love.”
- Kar. of Mani 80:26

“Extend kindness to all peoples, regardless of their beliefs, but do not accept their illusions for your beliefs.”
- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 5:5

“If you learn only one thing in your life, let that one thing be loving kindness. Develop a heart of compassion, grace and loving kindness for all souls and you will begin to find true happiness and peace. May each of you spread loving-kindness to all sentient beings without bias. Spread loving-kindness to everyone. Share the loving-kindness of the Saints with all souls. Every believer is

responsible for sharing the Gospel with others regardless of the seeker's race, gender, nationality or sexual orientation. Kindness is an outward expression of an awakened mind. Kindness should always be viewed as an obligation. Like a mirror that reflects the sun upon the wall, reflect on everyone the kindness others show you. Share loving kindness with others as freely as the snows fall upon the highest mountain tops.”

-Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 17:5-14

“While practising tolerance and kindness toward others in the world, my disciples remain pure in the Pristine Faith that has been revealed to them.”

-Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 29:9

“Generate loving kindness for all living beings; be grateful for all that you have and when possible, demonstrate your loving kindness by sharing with those who are less fortunate and in need. Do not neglect the care of humans, the poor, the elderly and animals. All these living beings deserve your compassion. Make it your duty to protect children and the mentally vulnerable from being abused. Be as generous as possible... and have respect for the environment.”

- Mal. of Mani 4:9-14

17. The peace of God is reflected in this world through the actions of the faithful, and through them the world can experience a taste of the peace that awaits them in the Eternal Kingdom of Light.

“Almighty God considers all those who serve Him in truth and sincerity as His friends.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 12:14

“Each ray of sun is a gift from God above; He has knowledge of all who serve Him and rewards them accordingly – in times of sorrow and joy.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 12:20

“I detest all evil dictators, for they do not exist to serve their fellow human beings but rather set themselves up to rule with pride and arrogance. Such ones have no place within the Kingdom of Light. The Kingdom of Light will bring to destruction all forms of world leaders who do not worship Abba d'Rabbuta and who do not serve His people.”

- Mit. d'Mir Izgadda 31:14-15

“If you love God and seek to serve Him to the best of your ability you are pleasing to God.”

- 1 Vizier 5:7

The Ten Commandments

His Divine Presence Mir Izgadda said: “It is my wish for everyone within the Faith to read and study these Commandments on a daily basis.”

The following list contains the Manichaeian Ten Commandments:

1. You shall worship the One God and not commit yourself to the worship of idols; not bowing down to physical objects or ideals in order to worship them.
2. You shall not be dishonest in your ways.
3. You shall not be greedy.
4. You shall not murder a man, a woman or a child, neither shall you abort an infant; and you shall not commit to unnecessary killing of any life including animals and plants.
5. You shall not be unfaithful to your spouse, or commit any form of sexual misconduct.
6. You shall not commit theft.
7. You shall not deceive someone in order to mislead them.
8. You shall not practice magic.
9. You shall not commit hypocrisy in your ways.
10. You shall seek peace and be fair to all regardless of a person’s ethnicity, colour, nationality, religious beliefs, gender or sexuality.

The Twelve Virtues

1. Royalty,
2. Wisdom,
3. Victory,
4. Contentment,
5. Purity,
6. Truth,
7. Faith,
8. Patience,
9. Sincerity,
10. Kindness,
11. Justice,
12. and Light

On the Cultivation of the Twelve Virtues

My brethren, children of the Venerable Religion, those who walk in the Path of Truth in the Religion of Light, O how I wish for each of you to put into daily practice the Twelve Virtues and the various character qualities associated with each of these Virtues.

When you realise the origin of the True Self, you know that you are a daughter or son of the King of Truth and you have skill, divine gentry, blessed dignity and virtue itself. This, my beloved children, is the first virtue: Great Royalty.

When you practice balance, seek and hold to enlightenment and understanding, when you are able to be taught things of a divine nature, this, my beloved children, is the second virtue: Wisdom.

When you practice self control and make a concerted effort to detach yourselves from materialism and harmful desires, this, my beloved children, is the third virtue: Victory.

Experience joy, O children of Light, practice divine persuasion and reconciliation with your fellow brothers and sisters and the world. This, my beloved children, is the fourth virtue: Contentment.

When you practice modesty, have a humble heart and practice religious zeal, this, my beloved children, is the fifth virtue: Purity.

Beloved children, when your speech is true, when your beliefs are pure, when you practice upright morals, when you walk diligently upon the path of true religion, this, O children of Light, is the sixth virtue: Truth.

When you are able to dispel all doubts, practice the skilful walk and have unerring faith in the revealed truths of the Great Father and His Messenger, this, my beloved children, is the seventh virtue: Faith.

Remaining calm in all situations, enduring wrongs brought against you, and not being quick to anger, this, my beloved children, is the eighth virtue: Patience.

When you practice integrity, honesty and zeal in your walk, holding the right hand of the Holy Messenger of Light, you come to realize the ninth virtue: Sincerity.

Good deeds, generosity, love, and graciousness in all things is a sign of the tenth virtue, my beloved children: Virtue.

When you practice uniformity of heart and impartiality toward all living beings, this,

my beloved children, is the eleventh virtue: Justice.

When you are of one mind with the Divine Messenger, have light emanating from the soul, when you have unity with the Teaching of the Messenger and with the blessed community of the believers, this, my children, is the twelfth virtue: Light.

Additional qualities associated with these Twelve Virtues, beloved children, is to be able to be educated, to be able to educate others, to be useful to the Lord, to be useful to His community and to those seeking the truth, to have the ability to utilize divine wisdom so as to teach the path of truth to others, to have wisdom so as to meditate upon and see phenomenon for what it is, to be kind, altruistic, generous, to be amiable, friendly and non-judgemental to all souls, to be calm and peaceful, never upset by phenomenon, to be harmonious, unbiased, non-discriminatory, not prejudiced, and not being harsh toward others for their practices or mistakes.

The practice of these twelve virtues with these additional qualities, my children, will bring you to perfection and you will realise liberation. At that point you may leave your shell, the material body, behind, and think no more of the dark world that held you captive.

When you have perfected these virtues you are ready to meet the Blessed Teacher on the other shore.

– Mar Mani Khaila.

Rely on the Promises of God

A Teaching from His Divine Presence Mir Izgadda...

All those who have a valid Covenant with the Great Father are destined to see the promises of God fulfilled through such a covenant, provided that they uphold their covenant with great faith and strength, walking steadfast in the Father's Truth and Light. He will forsake no man, woman or child who walk in His Truth. The Great Father is present with all those who call upon His Name in truth and sincerity. He is faithful to fulfil His promises in all generations of His Remnant People.

All those who call upon the Great Father should take courage in the fact that the Highest God above and outside of all creation, keeps His promises, and everything that is spoken from His mouth breaking through even the deepest depths of darkness, is Truth. The Voice of Almighty God is Light and brings safety, comfort and blessing to all those who hear His Voice.

When you are in despair, recall the promises of the Father, for they will give you strength in times of difficulty and fortitude in times of persecution and hope in the face of death. No man or any other thing within creation can dispel the Light of the Father and nothing in creation can drown the Message of Light.

Be faithful to His Teaching which He reveals in each generation. Share the promises of the Great Father with all those who are willing to hear it, for it shall bring a blessing to those who are obedient to Him.

Continue Your Study of the Scriptures

If you would like to learn more about the beliefs and traditions of Manichaeans, we invite you to visit our web site at www.Manichaeen.org to obtain additional information and to download free booklets and other literature available in various languages.

Some Online Resources that Can Help You Gain a Better Understanding of the Religion of Light

Iglesia Maniquea – Templo Central (Spanish)

<http://manichaeen.org/es/maniquea/>

Web Site of Arkhegos Mar Mani

<http://marmani.org/>

Manichaeen Patriarchate

<http://manichaeanchurch.org/en/patriarchate/>

Br. Shamon's Religion of Light Blog

<http://thereligionoflight.wordpress.com/>

Mir Garendra's Religion of Light Blog

<http://flippress.com/religionoflight/>

Religión de la Luz (Spanish)

<https://religiondelaluz.wordpress.com/>

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