

Teheran, 18th August 1963.

Sir Bertrand Russel C/O BBC, London, England



Sir,

I am a teacher of Islamic philosophy and I have spent most of my life (39 years now) in the study of philosophy both eastern and western.

I have been reading your television dialogues with Woodrow Wyatt, both in the original English, and in the Persian translation. There is a question I should like to ask about free will. On page 23 and 24 you explain that the argument you brought in your adolescent days against the existence of free will, namely, that even men's utterance were wholly predetermined by the laws of dynamics, does not seem valid to you now, and say:

" I don't any longer think it's still conclusive " (??)

would that lead to the conclusion that you are now convinced of the existence of free will ?

I am, Sir, yours sincerely.

M.T. Ja'fari

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