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## NUMBER NINE AND ITS SYMBOLIC NATURE

**Abstract:** This article focuses on the number nine, its symbolic significance, the worldview of different peoples, their role and significance in the spiritual life. Public opinion about the number nine, confidence in its magical power, the reasons for the widespread use of this number are explained.

**Key words:** number nine, mythology, religion, philosophical view, nine dragons, nine-headed snake, tarkhan, nine miracles.

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### Introduction

Numbers have a special place in the spiritual life, mythology, religion and philosophical views of the peoples of the world. Because the number is a philosophical category and has logical, national-cultural, mythological and religious features. That is why the belief, attitude and appeal to numbers in a certain sense from the history of the ancient world to the present day is noticeable. In ancient Babylon, Egypt, and Greece, a variety of sacred number systems were developed. It was started in Greece by Pythagoras and his followers, which later led to the emergence of mystical-philosophical numerology. Their ideas about numbers were related to their views on the universe and the emergence of everything in it. According to Pythagoras, the founder of the idea of numbers among European scientists, the universe was created by the power of numbers. His interpretation gave rise to the notion that "Everything consists of numbers" because the number is both a material and a form of the Universe.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

It is known that Pythagoras did not write down his scientific works, which have come down to us through the records of Aristotle and Plato. Aristotle writes: "Pythagoras recognized that the beginning of all beings is a mathematical beginning." This philosophical truth connected him with numbers and music. Pythagoras considered numbers to be a source

of power and advanced the view that the mysteries of the whole universe could be known through the science of numbers. As he delves into the properties of numbers, as he defines their different meanings, he concludes that the science of numbers is the key to life. We can also see how true this idea is in the example of the views associated with the number nine.

"Scientists of the ancient world considered the number nine to be a symbol of eternity, knowledge, intellect and destiny" [1]. The results of multiplying the numbers from one to six in the Carra table by nine resulted in the successive substitution of numbers in the multiplication of six and subsequent numbers, which made Pythagorean followers know that this number had magical powers. They regarded the number nine as a symbol of wisdom, courage, and stability [2]. The magic power of the number nine is that the combination of two nines forms eighteen. When one and eight are added together (i.e., when a two-digit number is converted to a one-digit number), nine is also formed. A similar situation can be seen in the numbers 27, 36, 45, 54, 63, 72, 81, 90, or in three-digit numbers such as 108, 117, 126, 135. Because all of these numbers are formed by multiplying different numbers by nine digits. When the number nine is added to the number 999, 1008 is formed, and the sum of these four numbers also gives nine. Apparently, any quantity multiplied by nine loses its property and adapts to nine. No other number has such a feature. Nine emperors are also considered emperors because

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they contain all the properties of numbers from one to nine. Maybe that's why it's a symbol of longevity, happiness, and one of the happiest numbers.

According to the Mayan peoples, the underworld consists of nine layers, each of which is ruled by a separate god [3]. In the Book of Changes,  $3 * 3$ , that is, the number nine, is recognized as a lucky number. This figure was quite popular not only in European countries, but also in India and the East. For example, in Indian astronomy, the number of planets is considered to be nine. In Indian numerology, one-digit numbers are also nine. The compatibility of numbers with the planets is the key to Indian numerology. In ancient China, views on this figure are noteworthy. Because ancient China was divided into nine provinces. According to Fun-Shui philosophy, Beijing, the capital of China, is also divided into nine parts. Officials were divided into nine levels according to the results of the examination, nine different awards were established for dignitaries, while emperors usually decorated their robes with images of nine dragons [4] (the dragon is a symbol of a child in Chinese mythology) showed its effect. According to one of the Greek legends, it was much more difficult to defeat the Hydra Lerney snake, which lives in the Lerney bolot of Argorida. Because it was the nine heads of the beast, and instead of each head that was cut off, two more heads grew. He was crushed by a warrior from the twelfth generation of Hercules. The fact that the Olympic Games in ancient Greece were judged by nine referees and nine sponsors led various branches of art and science indicates that the attitude to this figure is much higher. This situation gradually began to enter the written literature. It is no secret that Dante's Divine Comedy pays special attention to the number nine. He writes that sinful slaves bury their sins in nine circles, while those who are cleansed of sins in the process of crossing the nine steps go to a nine-story paradise. It is noteworthy that even in life, Dante sought a mysterious rhythm associated with the number nine. The poet met Beatrichi in the ninth year of his life. At the age of nine, he wrote his first sonnet, dedicated to Beatrice. Beatrichi died on the ninth day of the ninth month of the Eastern calendar. This happened in the nine hundred and ninth year.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Meaningful interpretations of the number nine can be found in books created in Eastern lands. For example, Mahmud Kashgari, in his book "Devoni lug'atit turk", commenting on the word "tug", writes: "Tug' – a flag. A nine-born khan is a nine-born khan or khogan. Although the number of cities and counties under its jurisdiction increased, the flag did not exceed

nine. The khan's high rank is tainted with nine. These khan flags are made of orange king or silk fabric. That's a good fortune" [5].

Abulgazi Bahodirkhan gives information about nine gifts (nine horses, nine coats, nine pieces of velvet) that are common among the Turkic-Mongol peoples.

In order to better understand why the number nine was "popular" in the past, it is worth noting the words of Mirzo Ulugbek in his book "History of the Four Nations": "It is written that the Mongols has nine people: Mogulkhan, Karakhan, Oguzkhan, Kunkhan, Aykhan, Yulduzkhan, Menglikhan, Tengizkhan, Elkhan. From this point of view, attention to the number nine develops among the Mongol sects. According to a study of such attention by the Mongols, they do not need more than nine figures in each rank [6].

Genghis Khan's banner had nine pillars, nine commanders attended military gatherings, nine sins of the tarkhan (one who received a special gift from the khan) were pardoned, the title of tarkhan was inherited by nine generations, the tarkhan could drink nine glasses of wine before the ruler and receive anything he wanted in the kingdom are the other examples of belief on number nine. The above source states: "Tarkhan is a man who is free from all fines, no matter what army he is in, no matter what booty he takes, no one takes anything from him, it belongs to him and he can enter the house whenever he wants without permission and program. . Even when nine sins have been committed by him, no one can punish him. He added that nine generations of his salvation are sure of other offers" [7].

There are some views in Islam regarding the number nine that are related to the divine rulings in the Qur'an. In verse 101 of Surat al-Isra, there is a divine command: "Indeed, We gave Moses nine clear signs ..." [8]. In the "Tafsiri Hilal" by Sheikh Muhammad Sadiq Muhammad Yusuf, this verse is interpreted as follows: "These were miracles - hands, sticks, floods, locusts, lice, frogs, blood, years of famine, and fruit shortages" [9]. These miracles are mentioned in other surahs of the Qur'an. It is noteworthy that the number of miracles given to Moses (pbuh) was nine. This, in a sense, also led to the popularization of this figure among Muslims.

## CONCLUSION

"The world is made up of numbers and sounds, solve everything with numbers, enter the world of mysteries and meditate," says "Книга Творения". As one enters the wisdom of numbers, one also becomes wiser, understanding the world through numbers and thinking through numbers.

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