

Translator

Compulsory Repetition of the Circular Movements Towards Freedom

K. Ivanishvili¹

¹ IPA Direct Member, Tbilisi, Georgia

Translator

The concept of freedom in ancient societies diverges from its contemporary interpretations. In ancient civilizations, freedom was predominantly understood as an externally granted state denoting liberation from the control or will of others and was rooted in political and social contexts.

In such societies, freedom was not merely understood as liberation from the control or will of others but originated from return to a primal or originating state—typically symbolized by the “Mother-city.” The mother-city, personified as a nurturing maternal figure, provided sustenance, protection, and identity to its inhabitants. This cultural and symbolic framework reflects an understanding of freedom as a cyclical process of departure, separation, and eventual reunification with a central, protective origin. The maternal figure’s dual role—as protector from threats and, simultaneously, as a potential obstacle to individual growth when overly binding—highlights the paradox of freedom: while the mother-city or maternal entity provides safety and identity, excessive attachment can hinder personal development and self-actualization.

These varying interpretations of freedom reflect different era, political systems, as well as stages of psychological development, although it can exist simultaneously in the same person as a result of traumatic experience of perception of threats in various political and social circumstances.