

Report on the 10th Panhellenic Symposium of Epicurean Philosophy, February 8-9, 2020, Cultural Center of Pallini, Athens, Greece (By Christos Yapijakis)

Post by "Elli" of February 21, 2020 at 1:36 PM

From LTM "**And again independence of desire we think a great good**".

The fact is that in this small sentence Epicurus **does not** mention anywhere that "independence of desire is a great good". This phrase, as a first principle, comes from Buddhism and not Epicurean Philosophy.

The translation in this phrase is erred since the word that Epicurus used is "**self-sufficiency**". Maybe, for this reason, some confuse that Epicurus speaks about "frugality" which is another word that is used for washing our brains on the basis of financial/political issues.

Self-sufficiency, as a philosophical diet, protects a thyself from fear and anxiety when there are some situations/circumstances/experiences that are not as "milk and honey". Epicurus does not trust the politicians. He does not trust the marketable education by academic professors and authors that hide another head of Lerneia Hydra that is idealism. Epicurus does not trust the priesthood and the mob. Epicurus trusts only the freedom of the "self" that knows through his personal experiences to set the limits and with the usage of Epicurus's great methodology of the Canon, will answer with responsibility and prudently this question:

ES 71. Every desire must be confronted by this question: what will happen to me if the object of my desire is accomplished and what if it is not?