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IVAN FRANKO'S PHILOSOPHICAL VIEWS: A JOURNEY INTO UKRAINIAN THOUGHT

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Introduction. Let's dive into the philosophical ideas of Ivan Franko, a remarkable Ukrainian writer, poet, philosopher, and social activist who made a significant impact during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. His philosophical views were deeply rooted in Ukrainian culture and influenced by European philosophies of his time.

Article objective. In this article, we'll explore the key themes in Franko's thinking and see how they're still relevant today.

Nationalism and Identity. Ivan Franko's philosophical journey was inextricably linked to his deep concern for Ukrainian national identity. Born in 1856, a period when Ukraine was under foreign domination, Franko witnessed the struggle of his people to preserve their cultural heritage and assert their identity. His writings and philosophical works reflect his unwavering commitment to the cause of Ukrainian nationalism.

Franko believed that the preservation of one's national identity was essential for the well-being and development of a people. He argued that a nation's cultural, linguistic, and historical heritage should be cherished and safeguarded. His emphasis on the importance of language, folklore, and traditions in shaping national identity remains relevant in contemporary discussions on cultural preservation and identity politics.

Social Justice and Equality. Franko was not only a champion of Ukrainian

national identity but also a fervent advocate for social justice and equality. He was deeply concerned about the plight of the working class and peasants in Ukraine, who were often marginalized and exploited by the ruling classes. His philosophical views on social justice were heavily influenced by socialist and populist ideas of his time.

Franko believed that a just society should strive to eliminate economic and social inequalities. He argued for land reform, workers' rights, and access to education as essential components of a fair and equitable society. His ideas on social justice continue to resonate with modern discussions on income inequality, workers' rights, and social welfare.

Literature and Culture. Ivan Franko was not just a philosopher but also a prolific writer and poet. He recognized the power of literature and culture in shaping the collective consciousness of a nation. He believed that literature had a profound role to play in conveying the ideals of social justice, human rights, and national identity.

Franko's literary works, including poetry, short stories, and essays, often carried deep philosophical themes. Through his writings, he sought to inspire and educate his readers about the importance of their cultural heritage and their role in shaping the future of Ukraine. His emphasis on the cultural and educational aspects of nation-building remains relevant in today's world, where literature and art continue to be powerful tools for social and political change.

Humanism and Ethics. Ivan Franko's philosophical outlook was imbued with a strong sense of humanism and ethics. He believed in the inherent worth and dignity of every individual and advocated for the protection of human rights and freedoms. His commitment to humanism was also evident in his opposition to violence and oppression. Franko's ethical principles emphasized the importance of compassion, empathy, and solidarity among individuals and nations.

He believed that a just and peaceful world could only be achieved through dialogue, understanding, and cooperation. His ethical stance continues to offer valuable insights into the pursuit of peace and human rights in the contemporary world.

Conclusion. Ivan Franko's philosophical views continue to resonate with those whose seek to understand the complex interplay between national identity, social justice, culture, and ethics. His legacy as a writer, philosopher, and social activist serves as an enduring source of inspiration for those who strive to create a more just, equitable, and culturally rich world. As Ukraine and the world face new challenges and opportunities in the 21st century, Ivan Franko's ideas remain a beacon of wisdom and hope for those who seek a better future.