

Questioning Social Change: A cyclical approach

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Abstract: *This paper questions the very subject of social change. It is proposed that we need to rethink the whole concept of change in sociological studies considering –the logic of God’s design on all creation as well as the context of time. This paper is a philosophical approach which assumed that man and society are not really change rather they simply grows like a circle of seeds spring up from mother’s womb. Man start from circle of sperm which gradually develops to form society and nation but finally dying to make a complete circle as he born out of mother earth and go back to where he came from. We hardly say that trees are changing rather we see them growing. In the same way man and society are also simply growing especially considering the context of time. Whenever we compared traditional and modern society we simply used ‘modern eyes’ to judge and observe and finally look down upon traditional society. This paper tries to make a holistic approach to understand the context of time’s self contain. We often generalized that traditional society are very simple, primitive and poor in all aspects but they may not think the way we think. The criteria we used are merely modern world view. We better try to understand the time frame. They had what they need, they lived simple life and they had simple problem. Can we claim that we are changing so fast, lots of development and now we are free from problem? Can we claim that we have comparatively higher moral standard of life? Instead, we live a complex life and problems are also complex. We eradicate diseases and other diseases arise. Relatively we have far better defending tools and weapons for security but can we proudly advocate that we are more saved and secured? To my understanding there is no change at all; rather we simple grow, enhance and enrich upon the existing structure. The underlying principles are same. We merely remodel the existing frame to meet the requirement of increasing complexities and problems which we create. Similarly new born baby gradually grows and his demand also increasing. Things which persist in both traditional and modern society are-problems, sorrow and joy, good and bad, man and women, left and right, day and night which ultimately form circle. Moreover, the unsatisfactory life and desires drives us to grow bigger and bigger to fulfilled the purpose of God of eternal circle.*

Key words: *Change, Grow, Time, Cycle, Problems, Complexity, Unsatisfactory*

I. INTRODUCTION:

This paper questions the very subject of social change. It is proposed that we need to rethink the whole concept of change in sociological studies considering –the logic of God’s design on all creation as well as the context of time. This paper is a philosophical approach which assumed that man and society are not really change rather they simply grows like a circle of seeds spring up from mother’s womb. Or it change only superficially but no structurally. Man start from circle of sperm which gradually develops to form society and nation but finally dying to make a complete circle as he born out of mother earth and go back to where he came from. We hardly say that trees are changing rather we see them growing. In the same way man and society are also simply growing especially considering the context of time. In the process of growth changes happen. Whenever we compared traditional and modern society we simply used ‘modern eyes’ to judge and observe and finally look down upon traditional society. This paper tries to make a holistic approach to understand the context of time’s self contain. We often generalized that traditional society are very simple, primitive and poor in all aspects but they may not think the way we think. The criteria we used are merely modern world view. We better try to understand the time frame. They had what they need, they lived simple life and they had simple problems. Can we claim that we are changing so fast, lots of development and now we are free from problems? Can we claim that we have comparatively higher moral standard of life? Instead, we live a complex life and problems are also complex. We eradicate diseases and other diseases arise. Relatively we have far better defending tools and weapons for security but can we proudly advocate that we are more saved and secured? To my understanding society is growing and as a result there exist certain superficial changes but not complete structural changes. We simple grow, enhance and enrich upon the existing structure. Some improvement is done over the past. The underlying principles are same. We merely remodel the existing frame or skeleton to meet the requirement of increasing problems and complexities which we create. Similarly new born baby gradually grows and his demand also increasing. Things which persist in both traditional and modern society are-problems, sorrow and joy, good and bad, man and women, left and right, day and night which ultimately form

circle. Moreover, the unsatisfactory life and desires drives us to grow bigger and bigger to fulfilled the purpose of God of eternal circle.

As a matter of fact Social change is a well known. It is a broad concept, under which social process, evolution, progress and development are generally included. It encompasses the whole range of changes in society. But there is no concept about **social grows**. It is said that change is the law of nature. Every night is not the same. We change every minute, we observes new changes every day. New products floods in the market, new generation displays in the streets, new model of cars invades isolated traditional islands with high heels and short skirts. Man is differed from animal because we are changing every time. We construct new building with the so called latest design but birds and other organism never change the way they live. They are stable but we are unstable. On the other end we claim that 'Man is a social animal'. If we believe that we are animal, why are we so different from our brothers and sisters? Or we simply see our differences and not notice our similarities. There may be something we do not understand? However, if we don't believe that we are part of animal, then, problem solved. Animal are animal and men are men. But this statement may be too valued to be left at this level or it may be illogical. It seems that we don't understand the limit of our rationale and the design of God. It seems societies are not changing rather it simply grows. Or society grows and that makes some superficial changes but not complete structural changes. As found in the bible "whatever happens or can happen has already happened before. God makes the same thing happen again and again (Ecclesiastes-3:15)". Therefore an attempt has been made to explain this argument on the basis of certain principles:

II. CONTEXT OF TIME AND PLACE

We term it the past years are traditional and today as modern. But in the real sense there is no traditional or modern if we minus time. Whenever we compared traditional and modern society we simply used 'modern eyes' to judge and observe and finally look down upon traditional society. This paper tries to make a holistic approach to understand the context of time's self contain. We often generalized that traditional society are very simple, primitive and poor in all aspects but they may not think the way we think. The criteria we used are merely modern world view. We only make some material bases to distinguish these two words, such as the way of living, the practices in the society and other superficial parameters. The underlying foundation and structure of society already laid in the beginning (?) and it gradually grows taking a new form and it appears that society is changing. For example- Every society has their own way of practices, social norms and even social control for the welfare of the society. Start from a family, in the community and grows bigger and bigger and adapted more and more complex structure to meet increasing requirement. Therefore, the living example is Young Mizo Association and United Nations Organization. They play similar role with common aims and objectives in their own context. One is simple because the demand is simple and another one is more complex as it needs. Therefore, we can argue that society is not change rather it grows to die like an organism. Or better we say society is growing which makes changes. Making a holistic view reveals that the whole process of society forms a circle. Oswald Spengler, Vilfredo Pareto, Sorokin and Arnold J. Toynbee were opined that society is like a circle it passes through stages like youth, maturity, and old age and finally go back to earth. Important civilization like Egypt, Roman and Greeks civilizations passed through all these stages and met their end. Therefore, as long as the beginning can be an end society seems not changing rather it grows to fulfill God's purpose. Only the outer parts appear changing while the core is static.

III. PROBLEMS

If we take problems as another parameter to argue the so called 'social change', we can simply say that past society had problems and we are also having today. So, there is no change. The past societies are simple and they had simple problems but today's society is complex and we are facing complex problems. Society grows and problems also increase. The So called traditional societies have their own health practitioner and healer. In modern sense those practitioners are doctors. They were as good as today's doctors and as unsatisfactory as today's one. Nothing changes because problems persist.

IV. TOOLS AND WEAPONS

The so called traditional tools and weapons were good enough to defend themselves and not sophisticated enough to win a war. But it served the purpose. The case is same for today. Knowledge grows problems increases and killing tactic also more develop. But the point is we are still killing each other as it was done in the past days. So, there is nothing change. We defend today as self defense is the oldest law.

V. DESIRE

Human desires are endless especially when it comes to seeks for peace and pleasures. The way we express sexual pleasures many a times display animal instincts. Many people from olden days till today love

animal way of sex position. In the same way we seek peace and complete fulfillment from the beginning till today. As a result new belief system evolves but the essences of all religions are based on 'peace, security and complete fulfillment'. They are seeking and we are seeking even today. So, nothing changes.

VI. DUALISTIC NATURE PERSIST

From the known history there exist day and night, good and bad, left and right, man and women (even though new gender evolving today), low and high, cold and hot and many more. These dualistic natures still persists and play dividing role through the ages. Nothing changes.

VII. CONCLUSION

The above arguments hopefully reveals that society is not changing rather it simple grows, enhance the system and enrich upon the existing structure. The underlying principles are same. We merely remodel the existing frame to meet the requirement of increasing complexities and problems which we create. Similarly, new born baby gradually grows and his demand also increasing and finally die to form an abstract cyclical life. As it start from circle or zero and end up in zero. We may rather put first Social Grows that cause to social change that too only superficially but not structural changes. This new attempt of social grows is more close to social evolution but the main difference is that evolution concept includes- biological evolution and social evolution while social grows includes biological evolution, social evolution and cyclical approach. Social grows may be base on the example of tree. It starts from circle (seed) and grows like society and end up in circle. Circle is a symbol of eternity, a sign of endless and infinite. It is a symbol of perfection. Man is made out of soil/ dust/ earth and when he grows and finally back to earth to form a circle as the earth itself is also cyclical shape. Therefore, everything end up where it start and that is God's plan and that is the nature of GOD. He is past, present and future (Bible). There is nothing change from his perspective but full of change from ours.

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