



PHILOSOPHY IN SOCIETAL STUDIES: RETRIEVING THE PAST AND FUTURE

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Abstract

In the 21st century of the 3rd millennium researchers across the world carved a niche for themselves by shortening the path of happiness by their marvellous inventions and discoveries. The colossal globe is further shrinking by the tedious hardships of scientists and discoverers. However all the inventions and discoveries are having its negative corner which is highly precarious and serve as a hindrance for the survival of the human community in the contemporary arena. The arrival of social networking sites, modern missile injected spacecrafts, genetic innovations, pharmaceutical inventions are all worthy mentioning. To put it in a nutshell, natural sciences and pure sciences are overriding and considered as supreme compared with social sciences. Researches in social sciences are deviating or to put it in other way it is not in the right path. Social science research is particularly confined with empirical studies and more concerned with scientism. Philosophical ideas, normative researches are undermined due to the strong impact of empiricism. In this junction this piece of research paper intends to analyse and picturise the lacuna in social science research by prioritising the significance of philosophical ideals which is the need of the hour.

Keywords: *Empiricism, Scientism, Invention, Philosophical ideal.*

Introduction

Philosophy invariably is considered as the master science in social sciences and as well as natural sciences. Truth is the main criteria or central shaft in the study of philosophy. Obviously and undeniably this thesis is also applicable for other natural and chemical sciences. Philosophy and science can be compared with value and fact, all values are facts but all facts cannot be considered as with the former. “Values” got its own significance. All facts invented and discovered by human community should be value laden. But this is not so in the prevailing world subsequently gives way for all types of conflicts. In the name of fact finding or inventions, the role of values has been undermined throughout all phases of world civilization. The value of equality was denied and thus paving way for the ideology of communism. The value of liberty was realized and thus the advent of capitalism. The value of people’s representation refused and thus democracy emerged. The value of mutual cooperation gave way for globalization. The value of peace was underestimated thus causing catastrophes of war. In similar manner, all forms of good and bad values emerged and submerged on the basis of the ambience, particularly the political system can be considered as a cause. Even religious system also played a role in the medieval era but degree varies comparatively with the impact of political system. Each and every contribution of all philosophers was impacted by the system either it is political or social. We can give the same kind of substantiation for all forms of good and bad values. To put it in nutshell. Social sciences and its concepts is more human oriented and natural sciences are human application oriented. In the contemporary academic arena, the methods used in sciences are being adopted in social sciences. There is more emphasis on scientism by undermining the value-laden approach. Natural sciences and physical one are prioritized with great amount of supremacies. A social scientist and political scientist wishes to follow the same method and accordingly met with a great failure in their findings.

Sciences are having following criteria viz., experimentation, observation, universality, prediction, precision so on. There are all componential steps in carrying out research in natural and physical sciences. These are considered as essential criteria. But modern social scientists who wish to give scientific colour for their subjects are using the same scientific methods for matter oriented research all the aforesaid criteria are applicable and must phenomenon. Research related a man is quite different and the methods adopted in science is not conducive or the outcome could be a flow. Empiricism in social sciences is a dynamic discover on the part of human community, but almost all researches carried out in this way to a large extent is lacking the expected results in public administration. Elton Mayo attempted to prove scientific criteria by his “illuminating effect”. In charge he has carried out the empirical research in a factory and observed the labor by putting under different conditions. In social science sector, the effect created by Mayo was massive and unbelievable. But the possibilities of conducting experimentation and observation for all researches raise innumerable questions, moreover in empirical research we may not expect the respondents to express true information. But the entire research in social sciences are dependent upon data collected from the people we are getting varied results.

Reason of Theses

Scientific methods are interdependent upon the domain of human social life. All sciences are for the upliftment of the entire human community. The life conditions, political system, culture, habitual, customs are having a great impact upon the



inventions and discoveries by human efforts. But there is a massive difference between human social life and facts for nature. human, since from the age of antiquity acts on the basis of his free will. The behaviour of humans in a nation. Moreover we cannot determine exactly the behaviour of individuals to put it in a nutshell human behaviour is unpredictable. We may not expect same behaviour in different atmosphere. For instance people's of response differ from country may give different response in another country for a same question. There are more determining factors which is influencing researcher in social science plays a pivotal role in this junction. Relationship between social scientist and subject matter differs from natural scientist and his subject matter. Social scientists are independent. Particularly social sciences are value laden and other sciences are value neutral or valueless. When social scientists do research in democratic governance he may choose his specialization on the basis of his own sidings and moral compolitical values has got amount of influence. Rather in natural sciences, the discovery of general laws needs no value statements. To put in other way, scientists will not find values as a stumbling block for their research activities. That is why writers like Keat 1975, Benton 1977, Quine 1988, Chalmers opposed so the positivism in social sciences. Mere seeing and observing is a minor factor in doing research in social sciences. Rather experiences are a complete synthesis of sensory impressions and conceptual ordering and selection. All experienced is to some extent shaped by our previously acquired conceptual map of the world. Pain can be experienced and as well as perceived. Human mind is a blank sheet which is filled up by sensory experiences. Any genuine knowledge can be claimed only by testing the experiences which are dependent upon observation and experimentation. This rule out knowledge about things or entities which cannot be observed. Whereas scientific objectivity rests on a clear separation for (testable) factual statements from subjective value judgments.

Philosophical Thinking and Summarization

A scrutiny upon the researches and findings, comparatively the traditional philosophical statements and intuitional outcomes carved a niche for themselves. Plot's ideal state, Aristotle's governance and ethics, Hegel's spiritual idealism, Locke's liberty, Mill's liberalism, Marx's socialism, Rawls' justice and so on speaks volumes about different ideals and ideologies. Although the contributions were made on different phases of world history, hitherto it is being referred by so many statement scholars. On the other hand empiricism in social sciences is travelling in the path of no destination. Scientific in social sciences never gives the expected outcome comparing with philosophical researches. For instance, Aristotle found that "Music impacts culture of a country" before 2500 years. Certainly we are witnessing cultural change when music of a nation changes. Likewise we cannot substantiate the findings made out by adopting empirical research methods. Almost all the research made out by empirical methods are not credible. In India survey method by depending upon the responses from the respondents often met with fiasco. In this junction the aforesaid substantial emphasizes for philosophical oriented research which has its own significance and credibility.

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