

Abstract

The main motive and objective behind preparing of this thesis entitled “*Reweaving the Concept of Justice in the Globalized Era*” is to explore the concept of justice as the ultimate moral standard of human life in general. In order to do so, here an attempt take to interpret and analysis the concept of justice from the different period of the world and exhibit the connection and differences among the different political philosopher’s views. From the analytical discussion of different political philosophers lastly here we are trying to make a conclusion from the perspective of present day’s globalization situation all over the world.

Justice is popularly known as the concept of moral rightness which is based on rationality, natural law, law, ethics, religion, fairness and equity. Though the notion of justice finds its root in ancient period but even this present day this concept gets more popularity. It is the more important discussion matter throughout the world. Many political philosophers have been giving their perspective about the concept of justice. This thesis highlights on some of the important views on concept of justice.

Ancient Greek philosopher Plato uses the term justice as an individual virtue. He asserts that, justice is one sort of specialization of the state where three social classes (ruler, warrior and artisan) are fulfilling their own duties without interfere of other class’s work. If every class performs their respective duties then it can possible to make a harmonious and just state.

Another ancient Greek philosopher Aristotle does not holds justice as equality or equal treatment for all. He believes in equality for equal and inequality for unequal persons. So, to establish justice in a society it is necessary to separate the equal person

from the unequal and provide the treatment separately. But Thomas Hobbes, the modern philosopher does not accept Aristotle's view and conveys that, all people are the part of nature and by nature all people are equal. So everyone should respect the right of each other. According to Hume, justice is a virtue that construct for the need of people, specially it serves the public utility by protecting individual property as well as manage the several situation of human life.

Jeremy Bentham, one of the famous utilitarianist holds the justice in terms of utilitarianism. Utilitarianism states that, an action is right or just if it produces the happiness for the greatest number of people and an action is wrong or unjust if it produces pain instead of pleasure for the greatest number of people. He thinks that, justice is absolutely a subsidiary aspect of utility. In short, he placed the principle of justice as an implicit part of utility which is incorporated in the legislation.

Immanuel Kant does not accommodate Bentham's utilitarianism concept of justice in respect of the basis for personal morality and law. He asserts that, maximizing happiness for the greatest number of people or any other end is not regarded as an ends in themselves. Though an action produces the happiness for many people but it does not mean that it is right and it does not make the law as just.

Kant states that, justice holds that, human right will be equally applicable to all autonomous rational agents regardless of any kinds of discrimination. He primarily uses his notion of justice as a safeguard of human property right, punishment for offensive activities and avoids the war and set up peace across the nation as well as the world.

Mill, the utilitarianist states that, justice is a feeling, a sentiment or a product of our experience. He outlines six characteristic of justice (legal rights, moral rights, desert, break faith, impartiality and equality) what they have in common and determine

how they are divided. He shows us, how the utility and justice are connected. In this context, he states that, justice is grounded on equality and to be the primary part and it also incomparably the most binding and sacred element of all morality.

As an alternative theory of utilitarianism Rawls formulates his theory of justice, which main aim is to construct a well-ordered society. In his theory he introduces two principles of justice. In the first principle he states that, justice's essence is to secure equal access to basic liberties and in second principle of justice he emphasises on fair equal opportunity.

He gives stress on equal basic liberties but argues that, social and economic inequality is justified if these inequalities are: for the greatest benefit of least-advantaged people; or attached with positions that are open for everyone through fair equal opportunity.

There are some contemporary political philosophers whose perspectives about justice is path breaking for the history of justice. Some of them are—Amartya Sen, Nozick, Nussbaum, Sandel and Pogge. Sen is one of the popular political philosophers who rather focusing to set a perfect model of justice he is more interested to enhancing justice and removing injustice. He does not believe that, justice is a one-dimensional notion of reason, it is a pluralistic notion with many dimensions. Rawls's theory does not give importance and talk about the extent of freedom that an individual actually has. Thus, Sen's idea of justice is based on capability. Through their capability an individual can convert the primary goods of resources into what they value most in their life, which would help them to achieve freedom and it would ultimately uphold justice too.

Robert Nozick establishes his theory of justice on the basis of rights, that is arises from the concept of entitlement. He does not agree with Rawls's view as he made

his distributive justice by the help of difference principle that is totally depends on the “pattern” of distribution. But due to some obstacles Nozick does not accept this patterned distribution principle. To overcome these shortcomings he propounds the entitlement theory of justice, which primarily deals with the right to property in terms of holdings and rights to self-ownership of the individual. He illustrates this property rights or the justice in holdings with three different principles of justice. These are: principle of justice in acquisition, principle of justice in transfer and principle of rectification of injustice.

On the other hand, Martha Nussbaum constructs her concept of justice for the equality in human dignity. And it can only be set up when everyone enjoy ten central capabilities at least at a minimum threshold. In short, she emphasises on human capabilities. These ten central capabilities are: life; bodily health; bodily integrity; senses, imagination and thought; emotion; practical reason; other species; play; affiliation; control over one’s environment. But Thomas Pogge develops a consistent global interpretation of justice. He gives extensive attention on the moral and global economic order help to dispelling the mass poverty from the world. For establishing socio-economic equality in the world or to control international inequality he proposed the concept of “Global Resources Tax”(GRT). It demands that, if an individual uses unlimited amounts of resource then his duty is to contribute some of his economic benefits to the government as the government can use this tax for the emancipation of the present and future poor people across the world. GRT fulfilled the basic needs of the poor people with dignity as they can actively able to express their interests and rights against the rest of humanity.

Though different political philosophers explained their theories of justice in different ways but it is true that, all of them have shared a common goal, which is

“welfare of people”. However, in this 21st century outsourcing, industrialization takes their prominent place. People are busy to satisfy their own interest and to achieve their goal they do not hesitate to harm on anyone even their family also. Throughout the world corruption rapidly spread and to acquire power, fame, money most of the people have lost their conscience as well as moral values. The world is developing in every aspect, but still our society and social system remain stagnant and ineffective.

So, to overcome this problem and for the stability and advancement of the society everyone should not forget the moral values and move forward with their conscience. As like every citizen, good governance of any state should also follow the moral values in their activities. These can help them to make ideal policies and decisions; honesty, accountability, sincerity, responsibility in their works, secure the public interest, equally treat with every citizen. In short, every citizen and good governance plays as safeguard of justice. Therefore, to make an advance nation and world everyone should come forward to cooperate with the government.

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