

The impact of the characteristics of the era of modernity and postmodernity on the political historical course in the West (the rise of Donald Trump to the presidency of the United States of America as a model)

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Abstract

The history of modernity represents the era of the end of medieval age while the term of postmodernity represents the mood of community or values or the economical, cultural and political state. The modernity tries to advance, domination and optimistic while the age of postmodernity is a state of lacking confidence, global narrativity, fragmentation, doubt and struggle.

America is considered one of the most argumentative states in the Middle east due to its influence there in addition to the political developments that witnessed since the sixteenth century.

History forms an essential factor in the changes of the historical-political track in the west. The modern states took from history a means to sustain its legitimacy in forming its identity. To know the effect of modernity age features and postmodernity on the historical-political route in the west toward the Middle East region, the study tries to show the effect of changing the political regimes in this region and know the mechanism of this policy.

The term of "postmodernity" has spread in 1979 when Lyotard argues this term in his books where the term indicated primarily to collapse of authority and global narrativities. The reason and science have been attacked increasingly due to lack of better life of prosperity for the individuals.

Our productive and consumptive ability has been increased by rearranging the community and nature about capital sample. Lately, modernity has made the capitalism produce and change data apart of goods production. Nevertheless we remain consumed cars, cycles and toothpaste..etc.. Capitalism became changing to the information age due to its need to profits. This leads to make the goods became to be bought via internet rather than be tangible goods bought in markets thanks to high speed-large stored computers.

Sensations that move individuals towards the essential growth and independence became apart of progress and replaced by reason. Reason starts using the data production as a merchandise, that means knowledge is produced in favor of profit, production and consumption.

To ensure reason production, modernity orientated reason towards the political, social means instead of showing its ability to transform individuals to be in good conditions.

To understand the postmodernity age in clear way, we shed light on the period that Donald Trump became the president of the united states of America in 2016 as a sample of postmodernity age.

Introduction

A simple point shows us that postmodernity age began with technology and globalization which make the world more complicated. That means more of connection and more information. Since the postmodernity has been emerged, our conscious has been saturated with spreading of technological means and cyber world which became reality.

The intellectuals of postmodernity age expect in the end of twentieth century the form of community and diagnosis the essential issues apart of denying the truth. Hence; with the beginning of 21 century, they are aware of the inventions in media, capitalism and technology deform our common sense in truth despite of denying it (Illing, 2019).

The first section

Modernism in arts indicates to find out the industrial age and refuse the Victorian age and issues of realistic life with idiom "everything is free" which rejects the conventions.

The postmodernism age is associated usually with the philosophical movement "post-structuralism" or what is so called deconstruction which the French philosopher Jacques Dreda regards as one of the pillars of this philosophy states "the structures within culture are fabricated and they can be deconstructed and analyzed them".

Meaning of modernism

Modernism is one of the scientific terms that occupied distinguishing place in the human and political sciences besides philosophy and sociology. It spreads to combine the aesthetical fields just like theatre, poetry, arts. Hence, we can identify the ideological characteristics (enlightenment characteristics) as the following:

- Depending on the abilities of the human mind and science to process the fables, ignorance and communal differences.
- Confirming on the concepts of direct experience, nature and progress.
- Opposing the rules and authority.
- Glorifying nature.
- Originality of human being which means (Anthropomorphism) of nature and human beings.
- Depending on the sensual and experimental method against the standard philosophical method.

Historically, the renaissance age represents the modernity age which the axis of human beings is emerged which means that anthropomorphism considered the essence and core for the modernist doctrines.

There are many definitions set to the modernity, one of them is " to take the reasonable thinking, progress and emancipation. While the sociologists define modernity as " to break up with the heritage" or "secularism" or asking for renewal...etc.

From this view, we can say, despite over five centuries from modernity age emerged, that remained discussion matter among the intellectuals and researchers in the whole world.

Many philosophers argue that the concept of modernity is not completed, therefore, lot of definitions have set until the term of "post modernism age" has been coined.

The age of postmodernism is new concept that criticized modernism but at the same time is not separated and organically connected with it. The age of

postmodernism is considered as continuation to the age of modernism with different means and different methods.

François Lyotard, the French philosopher, who coined many definitions to the postmodernism among them:

1. The age of losing the absolute theory in the field of sociology and policy.
2. The age of end of the theoretical inventions in the field of sociology and policy.
3. The age of death of logical and skeptical definitions.
4. The age of giving meaning special importance.
5. The age of moral skepticism which will lead to moral world.

While the philosopher Jameson states that the reasons of postmodernism appearance are:

- The poor sight of reading history and losing depth.
- The sentimental subsidence.
- Unoriginality age "which means non- recognition of stable values.

the scientists assume that postmodernity age characterized by subjectivity, random, multi-culturalism and deconstruction.

The second section

The methodological frame of study

The importance of study

This study interested in the middle east region being America has great influence and plays essential role in.

The external policy: is a set of political goals that each country plays to communicate with other countries to serve its political, patriotic interests and internal security besides achieving the intellectual goals and economical growth. The state can achieve its foreign policy via the peaceful collaboration or war which leads to independence lots of people. Hence, the foreign policy becomes a means of communication and interaction with the countries in diplomatic way. The foreign policy is set by the president of state or prime minister.

Concerning to Iraq, America tries to achieve its gains and domination through using the Iraqi political system technique in addition to adjust the relationships of Iraq with the Arab and foreign countries according to the relations of America with these countries. Therefore; America pays great attention to sectarian and political doctrines in Iraq.

The light is shed on the historical period after the medieval age because it described the nature of modernity while the historical age which started at the end of the World War II as a social, economical and cultural state is described "the age of postmodernity". The modernity pursuits to show an attitude towards progress, domination, prediction and optimism while the age of postmodernity shows non-confidence with the authority system, collapse of great world narrativity, fragmentation, doubt and struggle.

The problematics of study

The problematics of study consists of two questions:

1. How does the age of postmodernity dominate on the consumption of the individual in life?
2. What does the age of modernity and postmodernity bring to the individuals?

The sample of study

The sample of study includes revision of relevant narrativities to explain the medieval age and the age of the end of the World War II till the present day in which what do the modernity and postmodernity bring to the individuals and society in whole. We deal with the period of the rise of Donald Trump to the presidency of the united State of America as a sample.

The sections of study

The study includes three basic sections, in the first section, we tackle the age of modernity and postmodernity, while in the second one we tackle the importance of study and the problematic study besides the sample and the technique of data collection. The third section includes the theoretical frame of the study.

The technique of data collection

It has been used the descriptive method in analysis. This technique helps us to reach to the facts though collecting data and interpreting them and classifying to reveal the relation between them and describing this phenomenon.

The third section

The theoretical frame of study

The term of postmodernity rejects the changes in attitudes that we learn previously via our thinking in history, identity, economy, policy, culture, society and art. (Jameson, 1991)

The criticism of postmodernity makes our place on theoretical, and social philosophical background. Due to its depth and range is not easy hand ideas.

The modernity and postmodernity are social, economical, cultural and political state in community. The historical period of modernity does not mean contemporary or modern but the historical period that begins with the rise of national states and enlightenment and the progressive age of the industrial revolution from the middle of 17th century till the middle of 20th century.

The temporary period of postmodernity which is coincided with the end of the World War II changes the current mood and historical values to comprehend the maturity of empirical thinking.

The regional role of America in the Middle East

The study tackles analytically the role of the American policy in the Middle East region. The project of the Middle East has been tackled in American perspective where America plans projects of collaboration to draw a new map to the Arab world, Iran, Turkey and the countries of the middle Asia. The American basic target remains keep the national security of America via guaranty these countries to be attached with its policy.

The targets and strategy of United State of America in the Arab world

The study tackles the strategy of America in the Arab world after the revolutions of the Arab spring. This policy lies on its ability to reach to the oil regions and security of Israel and containing all the Arab parts.

America plays a great role in the Iraqi economy where seven conventions of collaboration have been resigned in the field of security, custom tariffs, industry, education, environment, and transportation. America has enhanced its economical and commercial ties with Iraq to achieve political and financial gains to have ability to effect on the Iraqi economy that is considered a huge trade market to America.

Modernity

The age of modernity is totally different from the age of postmodernity due to the distinguished historical period is represented with modernity period that born as a respond to the medieval age in the west. Modernity is described as world historical narration and pays attention to control nature through applying laws and rational and world analyses helps individuals to be independent and distinguishing (Borgmann, 1992) modernity period is characterized by:

- 1- Appearance of scientific mind
- 2- Rise of the national state
- 3- Uncertainty in global of Catholic believe
- 4- The early development of the capitalism

The feeling of pessimism is correct description of modernity comparing to the previous period which were less democratic, civilized, productive, and less free and more faith with superstitions and more darkness to the thinking. While the modern age characterized with progress, unity, pessimism which was obvious in the intellectual and illuminated works (Connolly, 1988)

The age of modernity rejects the injustice and dogmatic manners which represented the intellectual characters of the medieval ages.

These practices and styles produced "the persuasion and authority" which means science and reason (Finger, 1993). Hence, the radical changes in constitutions have been made in economy and community in addition to changes in the philosophical

consciousness towards science and reason far from traditions, and inspiration and above all the human attitudes towards nature.

During the period of modernity, there was a view resuming that increasing using science will lead to treat nature to achieve the human and private ends methodologically (Lawrence, 1997)

Using the Descartes principles will secure the drawing of the world map by controlling and prediction in trade and transportation. According to rational principles, it can be organized cities that have efficient movement to the goods and organizing agriculture to give more crops, in addition to the new scientific techniques that help human beings to find out the importance of nature and make it in good way (Locke, 2011).

The second study of John Locke about governments is regarded as the best example of the modern historical narration on the centralism of the independent individual.

Locke explains that our usage of reason leads to recognition of freedom and life and pursuit toward monarchy as being basic inalienable rights granted from nature (Locke, 2011).

Individuals who live in a society find themselves that their rights come from nature not from community where the using of reason rearranges nature in the way that individuals demands enhanced.

Postmodernity

One of the postmodernity signs is loss subjectivity and collapse of world narrations in addition to increasing Marxism which rejected by what so-called "postmodernism" yet, they realized the Marxism criticism of society especially to the capitalist late community whose goal is to achieve the unchained profit and push the social activity to produce and consume the goods.

In the period of postmodernity, reason has a great importance which rejects the superstitions and religious belief where science and technology encourage people to control on nature besides the high transportation and high- speed communication.

Today people can choose the places that they want to live in without suffering from cold and hot weather.

The threat of global warming, COVID-19, Ebola, floods, and famine threaten our world but we adapted with these threats.

People used to see the impressive photos and pictures of the sport characters and actors on the TV screen high which show the data and immediate rerun. Did ask ourselves how many times do we watch the live sport games on the stadium via HD Jumbotron instead watching on the real stadium?

Postmodernity comes to represent "an active criticism" to the attitudes and values of modernity (Baudrillard, 1994; Butler, 1992)

The concept of postmodernity is criticism of the goods world which led by the consumer and the entrepreneur of postmodernity is the academic French Baudrillard who uses the term 1984 to criticizes our current society, economy, philosophy and art especially after appearance of "the consumptive community"

The west believed after the collapse of Soviet Union the need of rational and self-independent individual is not necessary and the resistance that they organized against communists is no longer necessary because the ideological war between the communism of the east and the liberal west has been ended. This leads to appearance of the consumptive trend but the political participation has been diminished. Instead of importance in patriotism and political parties, the individuals interest in consumption of the cheap data and the cheaper goods and trademarks. All these enhanced the individual consumption.

The criticism of Baudrillard leads to the rise of instrumental reason and dominate on the nature of independent individual besides the total scientific censorship which leads to the excessive consumption of the entertained data or internet. The virtual world in internet like Facebook becomes dominated instead of the real world.

The work of Baudrillard entitled "the perfect crime" declares that people live in a world colored by appearances and truth has been destroyed and faith and reality are just illusions in the world of postmodernity while the modernity pursuits to the total

truth. Baudrillard takes the illusion part when he argues in his work " the impossible exchange" in 2001 that illusion is "the basic rule".

What is the method of organizations in the age of postmodernity?

There is no specific method of organizations and the approaches of postmodernity are divided into:

- 1- Approaches more radical (intervals of Lyotard and Baudrillard with philosophy of Foucault and some of modernity parts.
- 2- Approaches if postmodernity are naïve (recreational organizations/ recall the late postmodernity)

The methods more critical like (Best and Kellner and Debord and Jameson) have been combined with the with the postmodernity theory beside the hybrid methods like Latour entitled "we are not new yet" and the table (1) shows the methods of organization postmodernity.

Schedule (1) methods of postmodernity organizations

Mixed between the complicated organization and postmodernity	Bergquist	Naïve	postmodernity
Excessive reality -imitation culture	Baudrillard	Radical	
End of great narration	Lyotard		
Total censorship, discipline archaeology	Foucault		
Cultural logic of the late capitalism	Jameson	Fundamental	
International attitude, scene accumulation	Debord		
Detour of postmodernity and adventure	Best and Kellner		
Unrepentant criticism of postmodernity	Boje		
Unable measurement	Latour	Hybrid	
Multi-temporary dialogue, architectural and stylistic dialogue	Bakhtin et al	Dialogism	
Control on nets of trade world organization, International Monetary	Hardt and Negri	Dark side	

Funds, Eighth Group, Nafta and others			
Busch war (Busch the junior led one of the Anglican Capitalist War	Bush and Neocons		
Vital technology century	Rifkin		

Source: Boje, 2006

Pivots of postmodernity

First:

The beginnings of postmodernity are not restricted on fine arts but moved to the social sciences (Best and Kellner, 1991, 1997, 001; Rosenau, 1991). The intellectuals believed that the age of postmodernity. The thinkers believed that age of postmodernity is the end of late modern ages which characterized by the ferocious practices and impermanent and exploitive (Boje and Dennehy, 1993). The theory of postmodernity has been divided into unequal groups due to move to the social sciences:

- A- The group of postmodernity which denies the dark side of technology which so-called meta-celebrated modernist (Bergquist, 1993)
- B- Aesthetic side group rooted in Surrealism (Carr and Hancock, 22003).
- C- Group of science of postmodernism (Boje and Rosile, 2001).
- D- The group that predicts of the end of modernity (Clegg, 1990).
- E- Postmodernism theory group (Best and Kellner, 1993; Boje et al, 1996 Cooper and Burrell, 1998)
- F- Criticism theory group of post-modernism which rejects the naivety of the age.

Second:

The modern capitalism goes on adapting phenomenological feature of the postmodernity where it uses (the language of post-constructivism) to generate new samples of management and organization but it introduced methods less democratic. Nike will disband their consumptive advertises and MacDonalds claims that their

fast products as nutrition. Education and knowledge have been organized which claimed that postmodernity has been detected in particular way after works of Taylor, Fords to exploit surplus value (Marx, 1867)

Bakhtin's dialogism is not like the other dialogisms because its goal is "to make people together" in one place and space to facilitate compatibility in opinions.

Third:

The conditions of postmodernism and the dark side become one of the controversial issues. The science of postmodernity is dedicated to rearrange the hygienic engineering and vital technology which have different effects to continuation of human and unhuman races (Best and Kellner, 2001; Boje, 1999; Rikin and Steele, 1998)

The total supervision of management has exchanged with the virtual communities; hence, the human relations have been defected. The virtual screen becomes an essential part of our life alongside with mobile and computer that make our life less intimate with others.

Trump as a sample of postmodernity age

In our efforts to understand the American policy and how it is related to the age of postmodernity as a historical period, we take the period of Trump as a president of the United State of America which we have benefit to determinate the behavior of Trump in specific historical perspective.

Pessimism has dominated on the mood of the postmodernity in the state of the American policy where the moody state of the postmodernity age in America was ugly because of many and different reasons since end of the World War II. The reasons are:

- The rise of the industrial community to support an endless war (at first is communism, terrorism, illegal immigrants and lastly COVID-19).
- Depression and economic boom since the early 1960s.
- Increasing the distribution of the false income.
- Marginalization, racism, and continual hatred towards against minorities.

- Natural and nuclear disasters.
- Appearance of consumer culture that supported by technology through internet.

Today the American society has public feeling colored by despair which was historically not used before. This feeling was somehow strange for the American society. Though, the value of the modernity and progress towards future led by reason, science and technology besides promises of experts with promising tomorrow, the Americans believe that these promises are just mere illusions and full of lies stated by the American politicians. this concept helps us to understand the age of modernity as a historical period to interpretate the rise of Trump to the presidency of America.

The current policy of America is inherited to its modern past which gradually turned into a present of postmodernity. It is not achieved by presidency of Trump but it was a long period of preparation. This is the dark mood of the nation in the period of postmodernity.

The reasons behind rise Trump to the presidency are the role of daily new, the broadcasting characters, reality programs, recreational data, and high- quality means to draw the attention of the American people. It was a scene dedicate to shock them with drawn advertisements. The public are controlled by the illusionary well- made screen scenes through pages of internet. It is easy to advertise or publish on Facebook that goes on gaining more dollars via advertisement and we become a part of this trade (Hersh, 2020).

Researches of Boyo applied on the American people in 2017 indicate that the American adapt the idea that the technology has improved their life in better way in the field of medicine, economy, and civil rights (Pew, 2017). Yet, these techniques were designed to consumption and individual usage like (mobiles, I pad, computers, digital cameras and auto driving cars) but at same time they are individual consumption and more isolation from others. These techniques provide artistic cocoon makes the individuals away of interacting with others and places besides

these techniques through news, advertisements, recreational data contribute and encourage the "excessive individuality". Therefore, no wonder that Trump reaches to the highest position in the American authority colored with excessive individuality. The dominated idea of the postmodernity that "if you believed that it is true, it must be true". The scientists of history, through Trump period, enabled to understand the historical power that compares population with soldiers who must be mobilized to war especially old ages, minorities and the poor who have to participate in this war to support the variable economy and imitate the status quo to make America great again.

Conclusions

The win of Donald Trump in the presidency of The United State of America surprises lots of history and policy scientists and left them perplexed. The age of modernity helps us to understand persuasive historical perspective for this win represented with collapse of the historical narration of science and reason which secure progress and document the individual trend and secure the individual independence, facts and truths. The age of postmodernity helps also to interpret the development of the political mood of the Americans. \

The presidency of Trump works within historical system feeding the reality of the excessive individuality and this is what the age of postmodernity has brought. "The president Trump is not the cause of this historical era what is so called the postmodernity age but is a sample of it".

The age of postmodernity represents in loss of subjectivity and domination of the capitalist community and appearance of the excessive individuality trend with difficulty with adapting individuals with each other's and preference isolation and control of technology on the society as whole.

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