



Utility of Philosophy

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Received: 18 May 2020 / Revised: 15 July 2021 / Accepted: 14 November 2021 /

Published online: 4 March 2022

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Abstract

Philosophy is an incredible intellectual enterprise that promotes comprehensive exposure to creative and critical thinking. The paper is written to invite general people towards the philosophical studies and wisdom at the outset it promises an intellectual journey. The paper claims that the expansion of philosophical studies and thinking in contemporary times would be a task of huge magnitude. It mainly tries to explore the utility of philosophical studies and thinking in contemporary times. However, it is an attempt to bring philosophy into the public sphere and popularize it in the post-truth era. In this connection, the paper is engaged with some arguments reflecting why philosophical studies matter? Why it should go side by side with other sciences/disciplines? It is observed that philosophy, despite being a widely respected discipline in the world, is still absent in various parts of India, particularly in Jammu and Kashmir. In this region, philosophy received less attention because of certain misunderstandings. In this paper, however, an attempt has been made to clarify such misunderstandings and to highlight that isolating philosophy means depending on conservatism and remote learning. It argues that in the absence of philosophy our new generations may lack a moral compass, and the ability to think logically and critically.

Keywords Moral Compass · Logic · Critical thinking · Evaluative Skills · Analytical ability

The heart alone is not enough; without the discipline of man's mind, the answer cannot be understood. For some, that is how the answer is most plainly heard. They are the philosophers.

Abraham Kaplan.

Philosophy as a rational enterprise was first exercised in “Greek” by a group of people who started thinking, observing, and asking big questions. They attempted

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Does Fate Hinder Freedom? A philosophical Praxis

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Received: 1 March 2022 / Revised: 25 September 2023 / Accepted: 30 September 2023 /

Published online: 31 October 2023

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Abstract

Ideas such as “I am born a labor, poor, a hereditary syphilitic/unhandy” are ones that people tend to resort to as excuses when they feel as if the odds of life are stacked against them and characterized it either “fate” or punishment. In every life situation, an individual finds a choice. In the contemporary world, human life faces boundary situations (*COVID*) and messy lived experiences such as paralysis, which have different consequences for different people. However, life seems more difficult for the less fortunate to escape their predicament and enjoy a better life. The presence of difficult human conditions in the world brings some serious questions concerning our fate, *facticity*, situation, and freedom into a sharp focus. In this connection, the paper attempts to rethink Sartre’s idea of absolute freedom in the context of situations that Sartre characterizes as *facticity*. Since Sartre affirms that humanity encounters certain restrictions on the road of freedom he also claims that freedom alone may change the situation of an individual. The study, however, tries to explore how an individual enjoys freedom despite certain restrictions and limitations and explain how both of these points of view are valid. The work, however, interprets Sartre’s idea of absolute freedom in terms of existential counseling to transcend *facticity* and break the barriers that prevent people from living a free, authentic, and worthwhile life.

Keywords Freedom · Fate · Transcendence · *Facticity* · Bad faith · Authenticity · Responsibility

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