

THE BASIC IDEAS OF MARXIST PHILOSOPHY

The actuality of the topic. In the mid-nineteenth century, Marxism helped to consolidate, inspire and strengthen the various components of the labor and socialist movements in Western Europe, and later became the basis of Marxism-Leninism and Maoism. Marx is the first great critic of capitalism.

The idea: the analysis of Karl Marx's life, work, and ideas.

The idea of this article is revealed through following tasks:

- to gain a better understanding of Karl Marx's ideas;
- to find out why his position was or was not popular and what influence it has on us nowadays.

Karl Marx is often portrayed as one of the greatest thinkers of the 19th century. He is recognized as the father of divisive political movements, his writings have inspired revolutions and generated centuries of fierce debate. Karl Marx was born in Prussia, now Trier, Germany, in May 1818. Soon he became involved with the Communist Party, a tiny group of intellectuals advocating for the overthrow of the class system and the destruction of private property. He worked as a journalist and had to escape Germany, settling in London. Marx wrote a gigantic number of books and articles, sometimes with his friend Friedrich Engels. Mostly, Marx wrote about Capitalism. Marx was one of its most intelligent and rational critics. He believed that capitalism had serious defects. Marx wrote The Communist Manifesto in 1847, laying out the Marxist concept of a society without private property or inherited wealth, with a steeply graduated income tax, centralized control of the banking, communication, transport industries, and free public education. After his death, his ideas flourished. His writings became the keystone for some of the most important ideological movements of the 20th century. Based on the theory of Marxism came communism, the realization of a stateless society where all are equal. Communism became a global movement, but the utopian ideal of a fair and equal society failed to materialize. Communism tyrannized and impoverished its subjects. And slaughtered them in the tens of millions.

Today, capitalism dominates the world. But many of Marx's criticisms have never been more relevant. Today, the global disparity between rich and poor is startling. Marx predicted that capitalism would lead to the rich getting richer and the poor staying poor. He was right. He also predicted that capitalism would lead to boom and bust economics. Marx predicted that capitalism would lead to globalization and that a handful of firms would have huge market dominance. However, Marx underestimated the ability of capitalism to make everybody richer by making products much cheaper. He also got wrong the capacity of capitalism to reform itself by creating welfare states that redistributed wealth through taxation. Although there is a lot to learn from Marx, his solution was far worse than the disease. At the same time, it can not be said that today's capitalism, dominated by immense inequality and financial crises has triumphed.

In the 19th century, Marx was concerned with one question: What does it mean to be free? Starting from this question, Marx developed an entire theory of history. Therefore, he laid the foundation for the paradigm of conflict theory in sociology, ultimately pushing the discipline to look at questions of power, inequality, and how these things can drive societal change. Because humans aren't just naturally free - they are incredibly constrained. Marx thought, we are incredibly poorly adapted to the natural world. The only way for us to survive in nature is to change it, working together to remake it to fit our needs. This is labor, he said, and we must labor cooperatively to survive, change the world around us, and gradually free ourselves from our natural constraints. But what Marx saw was that just as we freed ourselves from these natural constraints, we entangled ourselves in new social constraints.

Modes of production are all defined by a combination of forces of production and relations of production. Forces of production are the technical, scientific, and material parts of the economy - tools, buildings, material resources, technology, and the human labor that makes them go. In modern capitalism, the forces of production include things like factories, oil, and the internal combustion engine. But they also include cultural or social technologies, like the idea of the assembly line and mass production. The relations of production, meanwhile, define how people organize themselves around labor. The relations of production specify how the surplus is taken from the people who produce it, and who gets to decide how the surplus is used.

Moreover, in capitalism, these relationships are not very clear. On the one hand, we have no legally defined classes. Marx is a historical materialist, so in his view, even in the feudal system, classes are not defined by law, they are defined by their status in the relations of production. When Marx looked at the industrial capitalism that was forming around him, he saw two main classes: the working class (or the proletariat) and the capitalists (or the bourgeoisie).

Marx claimed that to pursue profit, capitalists would encourage their thinking, that is, work is good, leisure is bad, and material things make us happy. Embrace mass production and deprive workers of job satisfaction. At the same time, use the working class.

In this view, the economy, that is the organization of labor and resources in a society, was the foundation, and everything else - politics, culture, religion, even families - was what Marx called the superstructure, which was built on top of material reality.

One of Marx's greatest insights is that work can be one of the sources of our greatest joys. But to be satisfied at work, workers need 'to see themselves in the objects they created.' The problem is that modern work is very professional. Specialized work makes modern economies operate efficiently, but it also means that it is almost impossible for anyone to do anything to them. The real contribution made by the actual needs of mankind is understood. Marx believed that modern work will lead you to work all day long with your own identity and things that ideally can contribute to survival disconnect between.

As Marx said, Communism is not just an economic theory. From an emotional understanding, it expresses a deep desire that we will always have a place in the heart of the world and we will not be rejected. Perhaps Marx's most obvious dissatisfaction with capitalism is that workers rarely get paid while capitalists get rich. He particularly believed that capitalists have reduced workers' wages as much as possible to obtain greater profit margins. He called this primitive accumulation.

Marx developed many insights into the way people behave, the way capitalism works, and the sometimes negative effects of technology on workers. But the proletarian revolution expected by Marx has never occurred in any advanced industrialized country. The economic conditions of most workers in capitalist society were gradually improving. Marx has not foreseen major reforms, such as the expansion of voting rights, the abolition of child labor laws, social security, and the right of workers to join trade unions. Workers in capitalist countries seem to be more interested in raising wages and working conditions than participating in the revolution.

Marx had a vision for a new just society based on an economy shared by all, that would help individuals achieve true freedom. But when the revolution finally took place in Russia and later in other countries, Marx's view of freedom became despotism. The biggest flaw in Marx's vision may be his certainty that economic power controls history and only develops in an inevitable direction.

Most people say that we need to repair our economic system in some way. However, we also often tend to reject the ideas of Karl Marx. His political and economic ideas have been used to design a disastrous planned economy and cruel dictatorship. However, We should not reject Marx too quickly. We will use him as a guide, and his diagnosis of the ills of capitalism will help us move towards a brighter future. Capitalism will have to reform - Marx's analysis will be part of all answers.

Literature

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