

Unification Political Thought On Political Environment

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1. Individual, Family and Society

Divine Principle stated that to be fruitful (mature and ready to bear fruit), multiply and have dominion over the creation. The first blessing is the perfection of individual character. An individual form a four position foundation within himself whereby his mind and body become one through give and take action with God as center.(1) The individual who realized this blessing will never commit crime or against public good. The human mind has three faculties: emotion, intellect, and will. The human body acts in response to the commands of the mind, its actions pursue the value of beauty, truth, and goodness respectively. The mind's faculties and body's faculties united through give and receive action in a form of four position foundation, and the result is a perfect person. Thus, the political environment of an ideal human being is the environment of freedom, peace, harmony, and happiness.

The second blessing is the extension of the first blessing. When an individual became perfect, then they joint oneness in love as husband and wife in a form of four position foundation through give and receive action between husband and wife as subject and object partner respectively centering on God, and raise up children. The family fulfilled this blessing becomes a good object partner to God. To manifest the second blessing to a political environment is the same way of the first blessing, which a perfect family; parents and children are united oneness centered on the practicing God's true love. The family stand in a position as subject partner to a political environment in a form of four position foundation through give and receive action. The result is prosperity and happiness. Parents love children, children respect parents, brothers and sisters respect and care one another.

The third blessing in a political environment is based on the first and second blessing, namely, the individual perfection and the family perfection. The third blessing, according to Divine Principle, is a perfection of human being's domination over the natural world. The human beings cannot rule other creatures if they stand on an equal footing with them. They must earn a certain qualifications to gain their God-given mandate to govern.(3) Divine Principle added that to rule over the creatures, human beings must be perfected themselves by accomplishing their own portion of responsibility accordance to the principle. As human beings are perfected, they become a good object partner to God, and become oneness with Him. The human beings generate their true love from God in a position as subject partner to natural world, a object partner. Therefore, the third blessing manifests in a political environment, in the same interpretation is referred to an environment where the governing is abide to true love, and no destruction to the nature around, as well as the human beings live happily with the natural world.(2) The political environment is full of unity, harmony, freedom, peace, and happiness.

The conclusion of the three great blessings manifested in a political environment is a relationship in a form of four position foundation of individual, family, and dominion through give and receive action centered on God. A perfect individual give and receive action with a political environment, a perfect family give and receive action with a political environment, and ideal society give and receive action with a political environment centered on the true love of God.

2. Economics, Government and Ethics

The concept economic is referred to aspect of ownership. Unification Thought asserted that the terms of ownership, in capitalist economy there is private (individual) ownership, while in socialist economy there is social (national) ownership. Yet, in both economies the element of love is totally excluded. That is to say, whether private or socialist (public), economy is simply materialistic ownership, without regard to the mental aspect.(4)

Today, the economics' theory adapted from Adam Smith, the father of modern economics and capitalism. But as mentioned above it exclude the element of love. Smith said:

"Every individual necessarily labors to render the annual revenue of the society as great as he can. He generally neither intends to promote the public interest, nor knows how much he is promoting it ... He intends only his own gain, and he is in this, as in many other cases, led by an invisible hand to promote an end which was no part of his intention. Nor is it always the worse for society that it was no part of his intention. By pursuing his own interest he frequently promotes that of the society more effectually than when he really intends to promote it. I have never known much good done by those who affected to trade for the public good."(5)

Seen from the theory from Smith, and from the actual practical economics, there is no environment of mutual existence. In contrast, the principle of mutual existence of Unification Thought pointed out that the economics is a joint ownership, and it should be based on God's true love. Unification Thought added that it is the joint ownership of God and myself; second, the joint ownership of the whole and myself; and third, the joint ownership of my neighbors and myself. It is not simply a materialistic ownership, but rather it is an ownership based on God's true love.(6)

According to the principle of creation, the created world is God's possession, and it was created to be governed by Him through love.(7) Observed the creatures, the sky is the joint possession of all birds, the waters is the joint possession of all fishes, and the ground is the joint possession of all beasts, centered on God's love. Unification Thought explained in detailed with some examples, even birds of prey, like eagles, will not monopolize the sky; even beasts of prey, like tigers, will not monopolize the ground, and even violent sharks will not monopolize the sea. Unification Thought stated that:

Since God endowed human beings with the right to have dominion over all things with love, all human beings were to jointly possess the sky, the sea, and the land, as well as all living beings, including birds, fish and beasts, with a heart of gratitude, based on God's true love.(8)

Thus, nature is the joint possession of God and human beings. however, in reality of human beings' activities in society, self-centered individualism, and came to monopolize land and property have been acted. In democratic societies, under the banner of liberal democracy, people legally possess vast lands and enormous amounts of property. But, they are not usually very grateful; they seldom experience any pangs of a guilty conscience. Even when they see their neighbors starving, they often do not seem to care, and just continue to live arrogantly; this is characteristic of capitalist society. They are basically living their lives against the Way of Heaven.(9)

Unification Thought further with example by observing to a family. In a family, even if the property is legally possessed by the parents, in fact, it is jointly possessed by both parents and children. In the ideal world, parents always love their children; therefore, children always have a heart of gratitude towards their parents and take good care of the family property. In the basic form of the family the three generations of grandparents, parents and children (brothers and sisters) live together. Therefore, joint ownership is, strictly speaking, joint ownership of the three generations: namely, the joint ownership of grandparents, parents and children, all based on true love.(10)

The extension of this joint family ownership is the joint ownership of various other organizations.(11) For example, the joint ownership of a country is the joint ownership of three parties: God, who is the subject of true love, the president or sovereign, who are in the position of parents, and all citizens, who are in the position of children. Therefore, it is the joint ownership of the three levels of "the other and I," namely, "God and I," "president and I," and "my fellow citizens and I." Centering on God's true as the subject position, the president will give affectionate concern and assistance; and the citizen will be thankful to God and to the president, and they will take good care of all state property with a consciousness of joint ownership.

Adam Smith stated about the free market, once might raise the question; "Is not there any private ownership in the ideal world?" According to the Unification Thought, the answer is "there is," and it is proper that there should be. This is because a human being, in resemblance to God, has both a universal image and an individual image. A human being has dual purposes: the purpose for the individual and the purpose for the whole, as well as the desire and freedom to practice love. Thus, private ownership is allowed.(12) The purpose for the whole is accomplished through a community life or a family life, by using the jointly owned property; at the same time, it is accomplished through personal ways by using personal property. The private possessions are necessary not only for accomplishing the purpose for the individual but also for accomplishing the purpose for the whole. Thus, human beings are endowed with desire, love, and freedom in order to love others (to realize the purpose for the whole) according to their free will, investing their unique individuality and personal possessions.

The political environment for economics is base on the ideal person and ideal family. Dr. Sang Han Lee pointed out in his work on the "new cultural revolution" with the assertion that "politics and economy will be based on God's love." He explained that this will take the form of "vertical and horizontal love...realized in the workplace, the nation and the world." He goes on to extol love's power to reconcile, harmonize, embrace, transform, tranquilize and "even out all differences" between rich and poor and different races. The Unification movement, which the Rev. Moon has been conducting up to the present, is the movement to try to establish this very culture of Heart, or culture of love, on earth.(13)

Therefore, the political environment for economics is based on joint ownership through God's true love. The political environment for economics in the ideal world will be quite different from the economic activity of these days. Unification Thought asserted that it will be one global economy in which regional bloc economies are organically and harmoniously united. In other words, a unified industry will be established, in which local, special industries fitted for particular regions and non-local, universal

industries are harmonized and unified.(14) It will be contributed to the progress of the welfare of all humankind rather than aiming only for the interest of the entrepreneurs.

What kind of political environment is appropriate for a government? The ideal society needs ideal political environment. The aspect of politics, according to Unification Thought, is based on principle of mutual prosperity. This principle proposed as an alternative to democracy; the political ideology is capitalism. As, mentioned earlier that democracy is an ideology wherein sovereignty rests within people, for realizing freedom and equality of the people. It claims majority rule and parliamentary government, is the realization of freedom and equality for people.

However, democratic society failed to provide those freedom and equality. Observed to its structures, there was a contradiction in a capitalism. The economic inequality and the restriction of economic freedom, along with an uneven distribution of wealth. In many cases, in the economic inequality and the restriction of economic freedom were directly connected to political inequality and the restriction of political freedom. Especially, the freedom and human rights of the majority of the people, who are at the lower class are often apt to be trampled upon under the name of democracy.

According to the history, democracy was established by overthrowing absolute monarchy through bourgeois revolution, was closely united with individualism, selfishness; it has claimed the rights, freedom, and equality of an individual person. Thus, the individual's self-center is remained. Therefore, as result in democratic societies, there were various problems take place; the entrepreneurs' persistent pursuit of profit, and politicians' insatiable desire for power, corruption, and various kinds of injustices and crimes and so on. These problems can be solved fundamentally only with God's truth and true love.

Thus, the political environment for government concerned as joint government. Unification Thought identified that joint government refers to a government achieved through "the joint participation of all people." The joint participation of all people is, in fact, a people's participation through their election of their representatives. Then, if participation in politics through elected representatives is joint politics according to the principle of mutual prosperity.(15) Since all people would attend God as the True Parents of humankind, and participate in the joint government as brothers and sisters who have inherited the love of "True Parents," a joint government will be a "government of the brothers and sisters, by the brothers and sisters, and for the brothers and sisters, centered on the True Parents of humankind," rather than "government of the people, by the people, and for the people" or "government of party, by the party, and for the party."

To be specific, the political environment of government under the principle of mutual prosperity is not a democracy, but as a brothers and sisters who have common relationship centered on God. True liberty, equality, respect for human rights, fraternity can be expressed freely in this government. The relationship between such a joint government functioning under the principle of mutual prosperity provided peace atmosphere for the three branches of government; the legislative, the judicial and the executive centering on its constitution. Unification Thought suggested that, these political three powers, under the principle of mutual prosperity, a separation is proposed, but more in the sense of a division of the work of the three branches, legislation, judicial, and administrative, all working in harmony.(16)

The political environment for government, in the context of power, is also different from the traditional understanding which referred to a external force or ability to control someone or something; but in Unification Thought, as explained in the previous session, it refers to an authority with true love, which inspires the object (people) to gratefully and willingly obey the will of the subject (sovereign). Similarly, based on the common ideal of the country, the three branches will form an organic and harmonious system of cooperation, as they carry out the three functions of legislation, judicature and administration for the existence of the country.

Unification Principle claimed the state of ideal society is base on the principle of universal share value. Unification Thought, expressed this principle as the principle of mutual righteousness. It refers to joint ethics.(17) It is a model of ethical society, namely, a society of joint ethics, in which everyone observes and practices morality and ethics, both publicly and privately. Nowadays, seen the democracy; the capitalist or Communist society, the morality and ethics had collapsed. The result, seen through various injustices and social crimes and so on. Discussed base on this principle to current political environment of ethics in society, we found that values of respect, cooperation, and harmony had been lost. Family breakdown and free sex culture became a crucial topic which scholars has discussed for decade. Thus, the current state of the political environment of ethics is in chaos.

Unification Thought strongly pointed out that the ideal society is the society where people lead a life of true love; a heavenly life in the midst of reality together with the God.(18) Unification Thought clarified that the characteristics of the society of joint ethics; first, social life will be reinforced by the true love of the three great subjects based on the three great subjects thought; parents, teachers, leaders, who are the center of dominion—give God's true love continuously and limitless to their object partners, namely, children, students, employees or the people of their country. Here some realistic examples:

Poverty will disappear through the true love of those who have more. Those who are thirsty for knowledge will be satisfied through the true love of those who have knowledge. A school filled with the teacher's true love, and a workplace filled with the manager's true love will both become ethical systems, which are the extended forms of an ethical family. That is to say, a school filled with the true love of a teacher is how a family filled with the true love of parents is extended in the aspect of education; a workplace filled with the true love of a manager is an extended family in the aspect of management. Thus, the entire society will be filled with God's love.(19)

The conclusion of this Divine Principle discussion of the messianic ideal is that the “paths of religion, politics and economy” will converge on the foundation of a world view that integrates religion and science, i.e. the ideals of the mind and needs of the body. “The religion founded upon this truth” will enable humankind to become “one with God in heart. Such people will build an economy in accordance with the divine ideal.” This religion and economy will be “the foundations for a new political order … a messianic kingdom built upon the principles of interdependence, mutual prosperity and universally shared values.”(20)

Notes:

- 1) HSA-UWC, Exposition of the Divine Principle (Seoul: Sung Hwa Publishing, 2005), 34.
- 2) Ibid., 35.
- 3) Ibid., 78.
- 4) Unification Thought Institute, New Essential of Unification Thought: Head-Wing Thought (Japan: Gogensha Publishing, 2006), 508.
- 5) www.investopedia.com/terms/i/invisiblehand.asp#axzz2A61eJUnH
(accessed November 22, 2012).
- 6) Unification Thought Institute, New Essential of Unification Thought: Head-Wing Thought (Japan: Gogensha publishing, 2006), 508.
- 7) HSA-UWC, Exposition of the Divine Principle (Seoul: Sung Hwa Publishing, 2005), 64.
- 8) Unification Thought Institute, New Essential of Unification Thought: Head-Wing Thought (Japan: Gogensha publishing, 2006), 508.
- 9) Ibid.
- 10) Ibid.
- 11) Ibid.
- 12) Ibid.
- 13) Tyler O. Hendricks, “Unification Politics in Theory and Practice,” Journal of Unification Studies 6, (2004-2005): 61-84, under “Setting,”
www.journals.uts.edu/volume-vi-2004-2005/104-unification-pol...
(accessed November 23, 2012).
- 14) Unification Thought Institute, New Essential of Unification Thought: Head-Wing Thought (Japan: Gogensha publishing, 2006), 508.
- 15) Ibid.
- 16) Ibid.
- 17) Ibid., 521.
- 18) Ibid., 522.
- 19) Ibid., 523.
- 20) HSA-UWC, Exposition of the Divine Principle (Seoul: Sung Hwa Publishing, 2005), 343-344.