

## พื้นฐานปรัชญาสังคมและการเมืองเพื่อรัฐประศาสนศาสตร์ The Fundamental of Social and Political Philosophy for Public Administration

พระมหามงคลกานต์ ฐิตธมโม

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### บทคัดย่อ

การศึกษาแนวคิดพื้นฐานปรัชญาสังคมและการเมืองเพื่อรัฐประศาสนศาสตร์ เป็นการศึกษาความหมายแนวคิดทางปรัชญาที่มีความสำคัญต่อสังคมในเชิงปฏิบัติ และมีผลต่อเนื่องจนถึงการบริหารในระบบของการเมืองการปกครอง ที่เป็นพื้นฐานทางปรัชญาเพื่อศึกษาปรัชญาการปกครองในทัศนะของนักปรัชญาต่าง ๆ ที่มีผลต่อการเมืองการปกครองของประเทศ

ดังนั้น นักปรัชญาตะวันตกจึงให้ความสำคัญเกี่ยวกับเรื่องปรัชญาการปกครองเป็นหลักสำคัญ เช่น หลักการปกครองและการเป็นผู้ปกครองของนักปรัชญา เช่น อริสโตเติล กล่าวว่า การปกครองเน้นที่ความสงบสุขของประชาชนเป็นหลัก รูปแบบการปกครองแต่ละรูปแบบนั้นไม่มีความเท่าเทียมกันเพราะขึ้นอยู่กับการบริหารของผู้ปกครองว่ามีการใช้หลักปรัชญาสังคมและการเมืองเพื่อสอดคล้องกับแนวคิดที่จะปรับใช้รูปแบบใดเพื่อให้เกิดประโยชน์แก่ส่วนรวมอย่างแท้จริง

**คำสำคัญ:** รูปแบบทางสังคม, ปรัชญาการเมือง, รัฐประศาสนศาสตร์

### ABSTRACT

The fundamental of social and political philosophy for public administration were important for society in practical context and will be continuously an impact to the administration system of social and politics. There were many perspectives from various philosophers which affect to the administration of the nation.

The Western philosophers prefer to the philosophy of good governance and being good administrator, such as Aristotle said that the administration emphasize mainly on the peace of people. There was no equality in the administration format because it depends on the social and political principle utilize by each head of administration to correspond their ideas to deploy in any form to achieve the benefits for the public.

**Keyword:** Fundamental of Social, Political Philosophy, Public Administration

## 1. Introduction

Philosophy of administration was the concept and theory about domination, protection, maintain and control (the Lord Buddha's teachings (P.Payutto), 2003, p. 87) which was the practice of administrator to arrange the social and political order for the citizens to live together neatly and to get welfare from the State. It was the role of administrator or government to do everything through the bureaucratic system, the state enterprise system or through the acts of the private sector, state enterprises or private sector to the aim of such tasks which must satisfy the needs of the public as a whole. The major basic needs of the citizens could be classified as (1) requirement on safety of life and property (2) demand for comfort (Chari Benny Hendrix Rd., 2003, p. 157).

Western philosophers such as Aristotle, was one of those who talked about the form of administration and political system, judgement of wellness of the "State of Justice" that will be able to serve the public for benefits of people in society. The bad States then was the States that had administration form which benefits to administrator only. From the concern on the public benefits to society and private benefits of administrator, Aristotle had divided administration format into many forms based on 2 criteria of : (1) the number of the administrator or the number of people who use sovereignty as an individual person, the Board of the people or the majority of people (2) considering the dominance that to whom the benefits will be, for public or to administrator and team. Machiavelli, said that administrators need to be intelligent, powerful and had high cognitive intellectual powers. Most importantly, administrator must be able to be both the lion and the fox for the administrative function to go well (Chari Benny Hendrix Rd., 2003, p. 157).

It could be seen that the education on philosophy was actually to study the concepts of the ancient thinker who discovered reality in the universe that they were alive. Those who were referred to as "Philosopher", were both Oriental and Western thinkers. In the West, initially in Modern Greek, neither the concept of binding themselves with religion nor traditions, they think about reality of the world freely. Some thinkers might fear of the administrator in such circumstances which resulted in arresting to jail and death penalty by poison drinking such as Socrates & etc. It could be seen that many of Greeks philosopher had discovered evolution respectively by continuing their thinking about the reality in the universe comes to thinking about the administration of the country and about the studying of the people in the State. In addition, some had researched about atomic atoms which must be accepted that those concepts had become both a natural science and pure science later. These thinkers also offered a different style of administration which were criticized on which one was appropriateness and which was dictatorship. Plato discussed the State of ideology, which were divided into 4 formats, they were :

The administrator group with discipline – military. It was called military dictatorship because of the discipline, cheat people and make wealth to their team. Then the replacement by new administrator, Origacci who was the fraud wealthy minority fired from the first group. 2. Niccolò di Bernardo dei Machiavelli was an Italian diplomat, politician, historian, philosopher, humanwast and writer of the Renawassance period. He had often been called the father of modern political science.

After the second group with expertise in fraud had a State authority, they would cheat more to people. Therefore, the third group was a group of high-class family, who firstly being called as the aristocrat or smash, who had good knowledge of possession but finally was failed and behave badly same as the first two groups. Lately, the power falls to the totalitarian state dictator or Ranny who defraud heavily, then rotate in the same cycle naturally.

Therefore, the study of the concept of "Greek philosophy", which was the foundation of the Westerners was not that difficult to study carefully with cautious and trying to understand the evolutionary process. Then we will find the development of thoughts, the prosperity of the Asian minor Greeks, Romans and the Great Western countries, the major concept of those ideas.

The problems that arise in the basis of political philosophy for public administration are addressing the inconsistency of the application of political philosophy of public administration of different countries with different contexts. There are different reasons. Causing political philosophies to be partially involved.

## **2. The Meaning of Philosophy**

The philosophy was to study the rules of truth in general or about any specific case such as human knowledge, or of human values and the love to know and seeking knowledge (Standard College Dictionary, 1953, p.1014) Thus a description that philosophy comes from the two Pali words, so the word philosophy was combined as “virtue knowledge” (chamnong school. Gold-Prasert, 1975, p. 8) Knowledge arising after the end of the suspicion, then this was the root of valuable properties and the philosophy. Philosophy was that knowledge being described by reasons. Philosophy was derived from the 2 Latin words which were "Philo" and "Sophia". Philo means love, Sophia means knowledge, therefore, translates to be a love of knowledge. Not only knowledge or wisdom in general, but also refers to the decision, the value of things in life as natural too (cited by page 4 of her page 17) Philosophy was a status of complete and incomplete, a concept that did had and not had a system, not yet as a true intellectual. Philosophy addresses the split into branches, and was fundamentally give birth to a broad academic. It could be compared to a river which come from the sea and could be transformed to rain water or urine according to a variable situations. The philosopher was a searcher to figure out why the object state fair to recognize and to practice and to ease the human embracing. Thus,

philosophy was thoughts and attempts to find answers to the phenomenon of the nature and process of each happy life (Vatsasyayan, *Metaphysice*, 1974, pp. 2 -3 ) Causes which create philosophy were as follows :

- (1) From doubt or suspicion
- (2) From strange phenomenal
- (3) From investigation and comments
- (4) From seeing the world with a generous open-minded
- (5) From the acceptance of advice, experience and rationality
- (6) From adherence without preconceived, but only dedication
- (7) Non-stopping of searching the truth
- (8) No rush to make conclusions on the content of each philosophy

Once we understand the meaning of philosophy and the knowledge of social philosophy fundamental then we could see what form of administrator in which style of planning and administer they do for the country. Accordingly, we study the political concept to understand the terms of politics if they were consistent with the concept of a philosopher or not. However, it was certain that any laws arises would be inevitable to the concept of the philosopher as the thinker in the field of politics who invented the regulatory legal system theories in order to rule the people and groups.

That was why the public administration would be inevitable the process of controlling human behavior and the responsible actions of human beings. To set up rules to remove guilt and be able to assist the offender in any form. Thus there were politics apply to human beings were widely respected as a group in the regulations themselves, a variety of ideas which were parts that causes the development of corresponding to the city to be studied respectively.

### **3. Political Concepts**

The study of political concepts for administration of the country to be peaceful was necessary. The concept of political domination that will be adopted following a study of the concept of the thinker in each field of geographic, social, economic, educational, the religion and culture of each country. Politics were both arts and science, because politics (So Setabut, *Englwash-Thai New Dictionary*, 1957, p. 56) mean clever, polite, policy, process, plan and approach. To extend the word of academic, refers to political academic then administration academic which was the art of domination, political policy which broad over the whole country both as macro and micro structure. It was characterized as having an impact on the process of life all over the country and may be around the world. Whether it was a matter of structure, development or part of life for people and animals, they had positive effects from the political process.

The pioneer Greek philosophers who had thought about philosophers was "Pythagoras" Pythagoras of Samos was an Ionian Greek philosopher and the eponymous founder of the Pythagorean movement a representative of the Greeks who taught that "Each person should devote body and life to the State, but follow the State. Each member of the State must respect to authorized and legislation persons and grants their life for State (Pythagoras (5800-500 B.C.), 1951, p. 304) Democritus said, (Democritus (460-370 BC), mpp : 305), each one should sacrifice to public as a whole for the good of the State. If the State had good administrator, people in the State were safe. If the State was prosperous, people will had well-being and all the advance. If administrators cheat, State worse. To provide welfare was the duty of the State and State should give services to all citizens. The democracy concept which makes independent thinking about political theory, where citizens could criticize the authority of the State's old administrators, to have political freedom and to voice out their right to Government. That was the beginning of Individualism.

Some suggest that the public should not comply with authorities and to oppose and criticize the old political style. Sophists Philosopher School (S.E. Frost, the Teaching of the Philosophy, Tbid: 75 Treasury of Philosophy Runes, Gagobert. D. , pp. 1-1223) mention that the modern ideas about the Individualism theory was not included the group, but it depends on the individual who want the freedom, an individual pursuit of success and did not follow the law. As such the Sophists said the law was written by the weak person of the society to control strong individuals.

The conversation between the famous Plato and Sophists in the topics that argued Gorgias, which Plato argued that most of the legislation were from the weak administrators who protect their own benefits and praise themselves but threaten to stronger persons who were more capable. In addition, Plato reiterated that the great person in the history would refuse to comply with the law of a weak party and not to follow the legislation by the weak and foolish administrators. Such a concept may be called Anarchy who thought of the revolution to the authorities of which there were individuals who agreed to such comments. So, Sophists had influence peoples and adversely affect integrity of State of Athens. Most of the Sophists, do not want the story like that to happen but they were not satisfied with ideas of ancient traditions that citizens must be owned by a State without any objection and the State will arrest those terrorists who opposed to the State. They were clearly do not want any form of Government. Thus such concept becomes detrimental to the philosophy of the State.

Ideas about the State of Socrates, Plato and Aristotle, which Xenophen said Socrates (Socrates (469-399) had never asked who he met about what was the State, what was the Statesmen, who were the administrators or what were the characteristic of Statemen? However, even he did not respond to these questions, he had laid the basis in responding to the public which focused on important issue which was knowledge. Good public had to

seek and pursuit of accurate knowledge. Socrates said if public discovered correct knowledge, they would perform correctly and had a good friendship with friends. Socrates saw bad state of Athens, mostly operated by indicating problems and criticizing the administration of the mistaken Government. He was faithful to the city of Athens and when he had been judged by court of Athens to death sentence, everyone knew that it's unfair. He refused his friend to give bribes, and to escape away. He said that we should not destroy the laws of the State, although it was not fair, the State was similar to a mother who gave birth to him and made him as Socrates.

Plato, (Plato (427-347 B.C.) was a student of Socrates who viewed state issues similarly to his Professor. He said the State needed to develop individual advancement because if the individual was inevitably good, it would cause good groups. The duty of the State was to ensure everyone had a good life. Each person was supposed to be the second after the State. We could see that the social development, legal philosophy and political philosophy of traditional Europeans could be determined from the time of Plato. The structure of Greek philosophy, academic structure, military and construction had been developed from Rome concepts.

The political philosophy of Aristotle (Aristotle (384-322 B.C.) Aristotle had good basic political theory from the State which was depending on the nature of people. When Plato gave more credit to people over the State, so Aristotle adjusted the relationships between the State and people, saying that people were social animals, and natural political animal. Each individual could not live normally or live a good life if there was no society. Therefore, the State's goal was to prepare individuals for the best by dedicating heavily in order to pursue cultural, religion, art, political action, scientific research and above all philosophers. In the world of Aristotle, there were the Citizenship which means only high class citizen only. The slaves and the farmers were poor who were being forced to work. Only high class citizen who had available time for political transactions, sciences and philosophy who had a chance to live a good life with happiness and good morality. The States was that of the related condition of which there will be none the best forever State. Good Government was a Government of the people to life up their well-being but the fraud Government was the Government seeking for their own benefits.

Aristotle demonstrated that the goodness was happiness. Humans pursuit good mean they seek happiness, which was the highest aim of life. Goodness and happiness were the same matter (HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, 2001, p. 251) a joyful life was possible when people were in a good society. Humans were animal who could be better developed their abilities when they were involved in the life of society. Humans had been involved already in the family, in the village, but this was just basic patterns of life in a society only. In the States that were operating perfectly well with the good administration and good culture society where people could seek for a better life. For example, we could see that

the chess player could not be alone. We could see his nature when he had a relationship with other player on the style of his playing, his relationships with all the chess pieces on the chess board and when he follows the rules of chess.

In addition, common behavior, which was a common practice by making the actual condition of the people could not be free from environment. Humans need a sufficient physical objects, want to have friends, to be healthy with beauty and luck as a composition of life with satisfaction and without any obstacles impeding.

In fact, human beings want to have objects to bring comfort, such as buying a car to travel instead of walking with feet, need happiness and needs goodness. On the real expression, it was from the original good feeling without forcing. Similar to the good administrator who had some internal drives pushing to do good deeds which was loving-kindness, mercy and helpful minds.

The concept of Aristotle also emphasized the importance of the moderation style of living that was virtue because it was the middle path of Aristotle called Golden Means (there was merit. The podium glass, ethics, 1996, p. 19). It was the most suitable virtue, the great way that leads to life. We need to be brave, but not prudent, be careful but not afraid, had sufficient fund but not with too much or too little. Morals causes the appropriate life to had sufficient comfort which was not too extremely fit (vasin thotra, Internet ethics, 2001, p. 294) Ethical principles that were recognized as good things of life, that was, the principle that the person who was the most respected determines the typical ideal of life, it was life-based perspective and from opinions of people which was recognized as the person who was the core of the town who had the intelligence in administration towards people in their own home town.

The concept of Epicurean School (Epicurus) : (341-270 B.C.) had developed theory about the State being run appropriately in society that “Social Life in Based on Self-Interests and Individualism” which was composed of basic matter of individual private benefits. Each one of us was member of the social group in which we found that each individual was seeking benefit for oneself and for the group because the group could protect himself. So, there must be justice. We may not comply with the law. Epicurean did not believe the collaboration in public but to be happy personally. He said a wise man will had to cooperate with the public but will not responsible to the public. From this lead to “Pure Individualism” or creed Individualism.

The School of Stoics had the opposite opinion to the Epicurean, to mention relationships of people in the group that humans were not selfish and take personal advantages only, they were born within a society as a group of organisms. It was necessary because human society was not a member of the universe or a great cosmic society. We were duty-bound to law of the State which was a natural law and we were required to

comply with. School of Stoics emphasized that the universe had more influence on the individual and each person will had to sacrifice for the good state.

The concept of John Stuart Mill and Herbert Spencer about the people and the State. Mill comments about the fighting in a society which was a problem that was obvious today. The problem was about poverty and inequality in society. He believed that the society happens for everyone's benefit. If society did not insure the economic freedoms for everyone, then such society was unfair. Herbert Spencer accepted the theory that the individual had the right to defend itself, the nature of the struggle for survival and the weak ones were destroyed. So citizens must had freedom to fight to prove that he was reasonable alive. Fighting to survive because each individual depended on the community.

If individual had right to live solitarily, he was not so useful. The society was where individual had the right to fight, but such fighting, it did not infringe the rights of freedoms of others because a person had right as society defined. Spencer accepted Mill's Liberal Theory that of State controlled public, but the duty of the Government was only to defense against the invasion of foreigners. Taking the raw material resources sharing to people was not a government task. However, it could be seen the danger of such control and pressure. He said social provide service to individual but it should control the competition. Spencer had appreciated the Liberal Theory that well-being life must be in a State with moderate rules (Hebert, Spencer (1820-1903), which the author of the article was also agreed with their perspective.

In summary, from the study of Aristotle's concept, it was something that was the best coverage to the form of his political theories in considering always of the nature of the human being and the world of mankind. We might see the condition of lives of the Greek State at that time on the purpose of Aristotle which was the fact that the value of the governing rule may be difficult to find a format that was the most appropriate. In the view of ethics, to mention values that were in the human body that exists in society, who were citizens consists of ethics, morality, as a core of performing, (Vasin Inthasara, 2001, p. 42) a pattern of human beings' common sense on the right basis of goodness and happiness of most people and ease for the administrator to govern them in any forms because it will be easy, comfortable and speedy to rule citizen who were virtue.

Aristotle was perhaps to comment on various parts of the State, the various small unit which was citizen, those people who were living in the city should be "citizens who had involvement in the justice system and in the administration of the State." Citizens should know when they should obey, when they should use the powers for the good result of the State as always. In comparing the city-state as sports, citizens were players not audience. Good citizens were people who do all the necessary things for the good of the State. The question was a good citizen was a good person or not. The answer was that in each city, there were many agencies who will do various tasks which require good citizens who could



do the work of the Government under the Constitution of the State. But it might not be good people such as those who will go into the war for peace by killing enemies. So, how killing was considered to be doing well? At the same time, citizens in general not everyone was a good person, but a Statesman or a person who was responsible for the work of the public need to be good. Therefore, the great city will not be good itself but there must be one or more citizens administer jointly together and be ready to use the powers equal to ready to obey authority (So Sivarak, 1977, pp.27-28).

To conclude according to Aristotle's perspective that a State or city would not pay attention to the importance of the regime's administrators because the State in which he compared as sport and citizens were athletic players, of which both the State and the citizens of the State were equally important. The problem was the citizen in the State were unity with ethics and morality or not. If the citizens were good it would be easy to rule by the administrator because the citizens were harmonized, fully understand and plentiful of four basic needs and happy.

When it was like this, no matter which administration format to be used by the administrator, it where it was easy to administrate with principle of dominance and rule in their State because citizens were good. However, Aristotle had said that everyone was a good person, but a statesman or a person responsible for the work of the public needs to be good people with good abilities in terms of good citizens and good people of good will.

In contrary, if citizens were good but administrator was not, no administration principle, not capable and do not know how to govern, no ethics and morality then no matter which formats out of the 6 administration formats will not be able to use to develop the State and citizens who reside in the State will lack of happiness and incompleteness because administrator seize benefits for themselves more than sharing benefits to the public. Administrator were not in the justice manner which was the core of goodness in the administration.

Thus, Aristotle did not mention any forms as a good model or bad one, the author, when taken into consideration would resume to the administrator. If the administrator had good morals in the administrator, a State or city, then will be good. Citizens who were in the State then will be good too with the best way to conduct in the core of ethics same as the leaders. The formats which were jointly established in a State, such as laws or the Constitution will be good, completely draft by those who were in the Dhamma in various different living formats.

The good life will require available free time to be used to train their minds. The State had a duty to provide people with free time and make people spend their free time to training glorious and angelic life more so in line with Plato and Aristotle who really emphasized on development of the mind by contemplating the principle to consider in peace by doing meditation purely for mind development. The life of people who were

seeking for something special which will be permanently survive as times go by and to do so will release from bad wishes and ambitious to a struggle for only small valuable things.

People will had a virtue and ethics was depend on their own minds. They will be from a normal person who could be self-motivated to the good direction or evil with sufficient living in a middle path. To understand the issues which they see as reality. If they were an administrator, they had to balancing their times so as to be benefit to the mindfulness training to be polite and not that hard and against the happy administration with good morals and ethics minds. The concept of executive dominance in the light of the philosophers mean life was the best because it represents the administration will be proceed according to the administrator. If the rule makes the human suffering, if it was not a good rule which was different from the concept of others that each group was seeking benefits for the group as the group will protect himself, so there must be justice.

Political philosophy plays a significant role in public administration. Because of political philosophy Was created from the concept of a systematic, religious, philosophical, knowledge aspects Including local wisdom And the concept of politics and government together with many countries have to adopt the concept of philosophy. Both Western and Eastern philosophies have been used as a base for the development of public administration to be prosperous and all-round. Thus making the science of public administration more important to human life and work, better answer human questions. Because human beings are social animals and cannot lack public administration nowadays.

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