



The Effect of Culture on Philosophy (2)

The progressive definition of culture also raises socio-political problems. The expressions "who do not live in the desert, are not savages but are urban and knowledgeable" in the definition of civil will cause the classification of societies under the headings of advanced and backward societies and will prepare a legitimate ground for colonialism.

It is an obvious fact that the leading countries of the Western world used the pretext of advancing the societies they defined as backward while legitimizing their colonialism. If urbanity, statehood, institutionalization, having a legal structure, which defines the cultured, civilized, and the future, are the opposite of barbarism and brutality, how can we explain the growth of the two great world wars in societies that see themselves as civilized?

Defining the culture or the civilized through progress brings water to the mill of discrimination and colonization by ignoring the culture of ethnic communities that do not have the cultural elements of Western societies such as technology, industry and science.

How we define culture will also give a clue how we understand people. On the other hand, the reverse of this relationship is equally valid; The view of what man is will also determine the way he interprets culture.

Rousseau: "The first person who could fence off a piece of land and say, 'This belongs to me!' and find people naive enough to believe it, became the true founder of civilized society." His words emphasize the deep relationship of civilization with property and are not independent of their views on man.

M. Sahlins, one of the anthropologists of today, can be consulted to give an example from the other point of view. According to Sahlins, the main reason for the problems that civilization has to settle accounts with today stems from the answer given to the question of what man is. The civilization shaped according to this answer is on the verge of a catastrophe. Excuse me, I'm sorry, but it was all a big mistake. However, it is most likely true that this perverted understanding of human nature is endangering our very existence."