

Part-II

Q #1

1- Introduction

John Stuart Mill defined utilitarianism as a moral philosophy "where an action is morally right, if it tends to promote the greatest happiness to the greatest number of people, and the action is wrong if it promotes greatest unhappiness to the greatest number of people." Hence, his entire philosophy of utilitarianism revolve around mechanisms to maximize happiness of the people's.

2- J.S. Mill factors deciding whether an act is morally right or wrong

2.1- Principle of utility

According to J.S. Mill utility refer to an action that maximizes happiness. Hence, consequences and net result of an action determine whether

It was right or wrong. For instance, Ali helped an old man cross the road. The action is good; however, due to Ali miscalculation a car hit the old man thus the action is wrong.

2.2 - Principle of Greatest happiness

An action is valid if it maximizes a large number of people. For instance, 10 people want to eat pizza while only 2 want to burger then all 12 will go with eating pizza as maximum people find utility in eating pizza.

2.3 - Principle of Hedonistic.

Hedonistic basis refers to pleasure and pain. As pleasure is ultimate decider of any action while pain discourage an action.

For instance, if eating burger give a person then he must go for it instead of eating vegetable which a person hates.

2.4 - Collective Consequences

According to J.S. Mill, collective consequences of an action must be kept in consideration. If an action harms an entire community and benefit a single person. Then that action must not happen in keeping collective good for all.

2.5 - Considering long term impact of an action.

According to J.S. Mill, long term impact of an actions must be evaluated. For instance, over exploitation of resources helps fuel industrialization but in the long run it leads to climate catastrophes.

2.6 - Impact on social affair.

J.S. Mill viewed that actions of individuals have significant social impact. Therefore, impact of social affairs must be explored. For instance, Corruption favor a specific individual but harms social fabric and values.

in a society. Hence, it must be discouraged as it will destroy society social fabric.

2.7- Individual action right
if it doesn't hurt other's liberty

According to J.S. Mill an action of an individual is right and justified if it promotes happiness for that certain individual. However, his/her action must not harm the interest of other person.

2.8- Principle of Generalizability

J.S. Mill viewed that if an action is benefiting a larger section of population and hurts a few people then that action is morally right, as it benefits a large section of population.

For instance, During COVID-19 government imposed large scale lockdown to protect people though this action hurts people economic activity but it benefited a large section of population. Hence,

It was justified.

3- Conclusion

J.S. Mill philosophy of utilitarianism is the central philosophy in determining utility of an action in a practical way. His principle of "greatest happiness to greatest number" serve as a moral compass in determining whether an action is right and wrong. However, it fails to encapsulate on the types of pleasure and which pleasure serve the most. Thus, he favours quantity over quality which is a criticism to his philosophy.

Q#6

7- Introduction

Historical materialism refer to an idea that ideas, institutions, social change are because of the material nature. It views that materialistic nature

is driving change. Marx differed from Hegel who argued that ideas are the main driver of change and it is the conflict of ideas that is shaping the reality. Marx refuted all these claims arguing that inherent nature of material and their control over resources is driving historical and current change.

2- Karl Marx Contribution in its development

2.1- Materialist conception of History

Marx viewed that ideas are not the driving force as argued by Hegel. But rather control over material and resources are driving the force of historical development.

2.2- Economic base main source of conflict

Marx viewed that economic base is the main source of

driving conflict. He argued that forces of production and superstructure of society driving change

2.3 - Mode of Production

Marx viewed that conflict over exercise of power of the mode of production is a main driving force of conflict. Similarly, relation between mode of production is also essential in deciding historical pattern.

2.4 - Class Struggle as inherent source of conflict

Marx viewed that class struggle is main source of conflict. He argued that conflict between bourgeois who owned means of production and those who are proletariate who work for bourgeois. Their conflict over resources is driving historical materialism.

2.5 - Dialectical method of materialism

Marx argued that though history moves around thesis and anti thesis but the fight is around control over resources and material. He highlighted contradiction in the economic system and argued that social inequality is main driver of dialectical material.

2.6 - Critique on Capitalism

Marx argued that Capitalism is the system that is based upon the exploitation of the poor people. It enslaves people and cash on surplus production. Meanwhile, poor don't get anything from their surplus labour.

2.7 - State as an instrument of class.

Karl Marx viewed existing state as an instrument of ruling class. He gave an idea of Communism where community rule via collective ownership not by private property, as it exacerbate existing inequality.

2.8- End of classes

Karl Marx viewed that the conflict of historical materialism will end with Communism emerging victorious over the system of capitalism. He viewed that under Communism classes based on income, resources will end and a system of commune will emerge which will benefit the greater community.

2.9- Concept of Alienation

Karl Marx viewed that capitalist ownership over means of production is a source of alienation for the proletariat.

He argued that alienation is compounding divide. Therefore, proletariat should form a Vanguard to resist this system. Marx famously said,

“Workers of the world unite!
You have nothing to lose
except chains around your
neck”

3- Conclusion

Karl Marx's conception of historical materialism is ground breaking idea, as it separated the ^{debate} ideas from ideas to materialistic nature of ^{conflict} material. Moreover, he propounded a system of no class structure due to continuous exploitation and alienation of poor people from the rich. Hence, making ^{the assertion} that historical development is rooted in economic structures of material but not on system of ideas as propounded by Hegel.