

Decline of the west

[History](#)



A) Summary

Foreseeing the future of the west is unlimited, it's upward and onward all the time toward the present ideals. Some phenomenon of history, strictly and defined as to form and duration that covers, a few centuries which can be viewed its essentials and can be calculated from available precedents. The transformation from Napoleonism to Caesarism which considered to be the basic phase of evolution, composed of two centuries that have been existed in all cultures. Different revolutions, wars and violence is highly visible, imperialism also takes place.

Decline of the West is merely all about the problem of Civilization. The western civilization is used to refer to the cultures of the people of European origin and their descendants. The transition from culture to civilization was accomplished for the classical world on the 19th century. The book resented a worldview that occurred in the post world war I German culture. It is the grim view of an inexorable doom of the Western civilization which implies acceptance of fate, and also offered a sense of freedom from the past, a dark view of democracy as the type of government of the declining civilization. In this Era, democracy is driven by money and therefore corrupt.

B) Analysis

The author divides the concepts of culture and civilization, the 1st focused inward and growing, the 2nd outward and merely expanding. He sees civilization as the destiny of every culture. The transition is not a matter of choice, it is not the conscious will of individuals, classes, or person that decides. Cultures are things becoming and Civilization are the thing

become. Cultures' are arc of growth, Civilization are outwardly focused, and in that sense artificial or insincere. Civilizations are what Culture become when they are no longer creative and growing. It is the evidenced by a formlessness of political institutions within a state. Increasingly authoritarian leaders arise. Those states with continuous traditions of governance have been immensely more successful that those that have rejected tradition. Prediction that mass conscription armies will be replace by smaller professional volunteer armies. States will revert to armies of hundreds of thousands.

C) Critique

Spengler's intended meaning of the word " decline" more accurately renders as opposed to the original German word " Untergang" or downfall. Some of the terminology is confusing but he clearly distinguished the terms for the Culture as they exist in the world and in culture. He attempts to tie race and culture together and also discusses national unity of a culture.