

Good essay about breaking out of feudal relations towards individual liberation

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Humanism started to rise in the 1300s in Western Europe when the concept of personal liberation suddenly became popular. If we browse the world's history, this was the era where inequality was normal thing. Those who are ruling governments are the very few feudal landlords who are filthy rich. They have all the power in the aspects of politics, economy and religion. They are the Rulers. On the other hand, the majority of the people who are poor are the Subjects. This relation of Ruler and Subjects existed for a very long time that people became used to it. Until the time of the Renaissance came and the status quo was challenged.

These Humanists saw the lingering inequality in terms of the distribution of power, wealth and education. They popularized the idea that every human being was not created to follow the dictates of the Church or of the rulers. They suggested that a person has the freedom to direct their lives towards achieving excellence. Even the poor people they said possess the right to decide regarding their life and destiny. Moreover, these humanists tried to eradicate the idea of Heaven and Hell. However, this does not mean that humanism is equivalent to paganism or is anti-Christian. When humanism spread in the 1400s, its core value was individual freedom. It emerged because of the centuries old injustices despite the Christian environment. The core value of Christianity is fostering love and peace that makes it similar to humanism concept. The only difference however is that humanism dared to challenged the status quo in the framework of human rights while Christianity tolerated it. Humanists tried to break out of feudal relations whereas the Roman Catholic Church that time blessed the incoming rulers of states. These rulers were called chosen by God or blessed by God. This

blessing eventually justifies all the injustices that he or she commits.

In governance, Humanism believes that every citizen is a potential in the progress of a nation. Regardless of social strata and race, human beings are catalysts to the making and breaking of a state. The Divine authority however propagates otherwise. Divine authority protected the feudal relations of Ruler and Subjects. It stresses that the Subjects must comply with the orders of the authorities who are anointed by the Lord. It suggests that all the power lies only to the ruler and it is a gravest sin to deviate from this norm or go against the King's ruling.

A democratic kind of government today is one of the reflections of humanism. It is a kind of governance that has the regard for human rights, dignity and inclusion. The ruling power is not monopolized by the few filthy rich families because every citizen of legal age regardless of race and economic status may run for government office. Moreover, it recognizes the right of the people to protest against oppressive laws, systems and rulers and their right to register alternatives. This is a kind of governance that respects humanity. Respecting humanity is not anti-Christian or against any other religion. It respects and recognizes the rights of human being to embody religion that is not necessarily Christian.

Divine authority on the other hand is still reflected in the Roman Catholic dogma today where in the ruling or memorandum from Vatican is followed by its millions of members around the world. For example, its anti Reproductive Health stance is being carried by all Roman Catholic Churches. This is despite the heightening call for the necessity of a law on reproductive health.