

# Article review



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DEVELOPMENT OF UNDERDEVELOPMENT By The best way to address underdevelopment according to Andre is by considering how past economic and social theory contributed to current underdevelopment (Andre, 1966). He avers that study gives attention only to the developed and advanced capitalists like America. This notion makes the theorist mistaken in assuming that the past and present of these countries resembles that of the underdeveloped nations. Another mistake by the theorists is that they fail to explain the structure and development of the capitalist system as a whole and to account for its simultaneous generation of underdevelopment in some parts and of economic development in others thus occasioning a misconception (Andre, 1966).

He further advances that neither the present nor the past of the underdeveloped countries resembles any part of the developed countries, actually, the developed countries were never underdeveloped but just undeveloped (Andre, 1966). Far from what theorists believes, Andre argues that contemporary underdevelopment is to a greater scope the historical product of past and continuing economic and other relations between the satellite underdeveloped and the now developed metropolitan countries (Andre, 1966).

Andre, goes through a series of hypothesizes to establish the approach appropriate in developing cogent theories on development of underdevelopment in the underdeveloped world (Andre, 1966). His hypothesizes are qualified by the history of the developed countries during their journey to development. He takes the examples of North America, Brazil, and Chile to show how capitalism and monopoly contributed to imbalanced development in these countries (Andre, 1966). For instance,

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Brazil underwent through industrial establishment during the Second World War but unfortunately, development was unfelt in the satellite parts.

The hypothesis adopted is that the development of underdevelopment in the underdeveloped world is highly tied to colonialism and the economic injustices occasioned to these countries by the developed world. Analyzing the case of these countries establishes that they remain colonies of the developed countries through neo-colonialist. The developed countries for instance controls the market, they buy at a lower prices from these countries and sell at a higher price to them in return. This leads to the continued suppression of these countries by their developed counterparts.

From the foregoing, it is ascertainable that the underdeveloped world is best fit to solve the problems of this world. This borrows from the notion that they are the ones who understand the issues affecting them well. This world should devote attention to their problems in order to understand the process of understanding development. They should be keen however, from deception from imported stereotypes of the developed countries. They should embrace the fact that they cannot measure their development against that of the developed world since history proves that the two do not share in stages of development. As Andre posits, developed countries were only undeveloped but not underdeveloped (Andre, 1966).

Lastly, the underdeveloped world should employ a historical, holistic, and structural approach in order to understand the root cause of underdevelopment. After understand the causes, they can from there endeavor to eliminate these causes by embracing a journey from underdevelopment to development. Again, this world holds the solution to

their own problem and therefore development begins with them.

#### Works Cited

Andre G, 1966, The Development of Underdeveloped, Monthly Review 18(4):  
17-31, Monthly Review Press