

Democritus

Philosophy



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Lecturer Democritus Theory of Reality The atomists strived to understand the post-Eleatic issues. The issues illustrates that if change does not occur in real, then how does it take place in the observable world? Democritus addressed the issues by illustrating the presence of specific cosmos elements, which are real in Parmenidean perspective. By carefully studying the arrangement and also the rearrangement of the basic elements, the visible world can be illustrated without admitting changes of the real level. The atomist explains that there is only one category of real thing, the indivisible and tiny atom that surrounds a void. The reality account is the most superior among the presocratics, in addition to being very close to explaining the current scientific perspective on ultimate reality.

Only two presocratic atomists are recognized. They are Leucippus and Democritus, his student. But, very little is known on Leucippus who initiated the atomic theory. He was greatly influenced by Zeno; this is illustrated through his great interests in space paradoxes. Democritus is the figure through which atomism concept was passed to the later generations.

Democritus ensured adequate public attention towards the atomism concept, and was at the forefront of the philosophical controversy. He wrote in almost all philosophical branches; for instance, grammar, mathematics, literature and natural philosophy. He strongly believed that atomism issue could be relevantly applied to all aspects of the society, even politics and social ethics. Democritus theory explains that everything comprises atoms. The atoms are physically, and not geometrically indivisible. There exists an empty space between two atoms. The atoms are always in motion, and indestructible. The number of atoms is infinite. He reasoned that the solidness of an object resembles the shape of the comprising atoms. For <https://assignbuster.com/democritus/>

example, water atoms are slippery and smooth, air atoms are whirling, and iron atoms are strong. The atomist theory closely resembles the present science, than the other theories of antiquity.

Atomists explained that some reality levels existed to achieve the Eleatic demands. This reality comprised atoms and the void. The atoms are tiny and also indivisible particles. The atoms are Parmenidean real in two aspects. Firstly, cannot be altered qualitatively, destroyed nor generated. Secondly, the atoms meet Parmenidean expectations. The atoms are of particular category, due to similar material composition. The reality entails one and continuous aspects in the qualitative view. Even though atoms are homogeneously in the materially sense, they illustrate certain variable characteristics. The atoms individually differ in the areas of shape, size, motion and position. The observable world is illustrated through the atomic arrangements of different sizes, motions or shape. The atomic theory posits Parmenidean Reals and a void, which is non-being. The Eleatics support this notion through explaining that; being cannot exist in a vacuum, and there is no movement without the existence of a vacuum. Even if the vacuum is viewed as non-being, it exists and it is real. The movement of the atoms in the vacuum, results in the observable world.

The ideas of Democritus experience several criticisms and displeasure. For instance, the individuals who attempt to analyze the world through divine perspective, and individuals who try to explain nature in terms of function. Major critics are; Aristotle, Socrates and also Plato. Many scholars also experience the challenge of determining the end of the Leucippus concepts, and the beginning of the Democritus ideas. The scholars also continue to engage in debate, whether Democritus actually authored the ethical

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concepts that are attributed to him. One group illustrates that there is little similarity of atomic theory and ethical frameworks, and hence, Democritus is not the author. The Democritus works are identified through second hand reports. Second hand sources of secondary information are at times conflicting and unreliable. This therefore presents reputational challenges and questions concerning the works.