Abstract No: 478

Social Sciences and Humanities

HEGEL IN 20TH CENTURY CONTINENTAL PHILOSOPHY: A PHILOSOPHICAL AND HISTORICAL STUDY

M.D.S. Pushpakumara

Department of Philosophy and Psychology, Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka saman.pushpakumara534@gmail.com

The problem this study examines is to why Hegel is still influential in the 20th century continental philosophy even more than a century and half after Hegel's death, and why does Hegel still persist even after Marxist, existentialist, phenomenological, post structural and postmodern anti Hegelian critiques. Having analyzed the given problem, this paper will reveal the real origin of 20th century continental philosophical trends and their relations to Hegelian philosophy. As this study emphasizes, Hegelian ontology, consciously or unconsciously, has influenced later generations of philosophy since 1930s. Post Hegelian philosophy cannot be studied without referring to Hegelian influence on it. Present study explores Hegel's applicability for understanding Analytical- Continental philosophical dispute and the philosophical dilemmas like Cartesian subjectivity, naïve realism, mental-physical dualism and reductive materialism. Repeating themes like 'Back to Hegel' and 'What is alive and what is dead in the philosophy of Hegel will be elucidated in the course of the study. Although Hegel has positively or negatively influenced contemporary Anglo-American philosophies, the basic attention of this study is given to philosophical role of Hegel in 20th century German and French philosophy and its relation to Hegel. It is hoped that this study will contribute significantly future researches of the formation of 20th century German and French Philosophy.