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KERTAS KERJA INDIVIDU 1

- **KOD MODUL** : MPU 3162
- **NAMA MODUL** : Falsafah dan Isu Semasa
- **SEMESTER** : Spring 2023/2024
- **TAJUK** : “Aliran ideologi begitu mempengaruhi kehidupan sebuah masyarakat.” Berpandukan pernyataan ini, jelaskan kesan aliran ideologi Relativisme kepada perkembangan sebuah peradaban.
- **NAMA PENSYARAH** : Norlaili Mohd Basri

- **NAMA PELAJAR** : Mah Jian Xiang
- **NOMBOR ID** : 20618665

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Tandatangan Pelajar: MAH

- **KOMEN PENSYARAH/MARKAH**

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TOPIK: “Aliran ideologi begitu mempengaruhi kehidupan sebuah masyarakat.”
Berpandukan pernyataan ini, jelaskan kesan aliran ideologi Relativisme kepada perkembangan sebuah peradaban.

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Introduction

Ideology is a type of social or political philosophy where theoretical and practical components coexist. It is defined as "one of the items that make up the mental and physical needs of the individual who make up a society and covers political, social, economic, and matters related to human history and socio geography" by the Britannica Encyclopaedia. Ideology influences people's attitudes, convictions, and actions, eventually shaping the society they live in as a group. Relativism is one such philosophy that has had a significant impact on the framework of human thought. Essentially, relativism asserts that morality, values, and the truth are relative and dependent on individual, societal, and historical viewpoints. A.-L.-C. Destutt de Tracy, a philosopher, introduced the term "ideology" as "idéologie" during the French Revolution to refer to his "science of ideas," as it was then known (Cranston,2024). Nonetheless, relativism became increasingly popular during the Enlightenment, when intellectuals started to doubt established wisdom and conventional wisdom. Occasionally, relativism is defined as the idea that all points of view are equally legitimate. This suggests that all moralities are equally good in ethics and that all beliefs, or belief systems, are equally true in epistemology. It argues that morality and truth are flexible and differ among societies, situations, and people. As a philosophical position, relativism opposes the idea of moral absolutes and objective truth.

(a) Impacts on Politics and Governance:

The basic concept of relativism is that truth, reason, and justification are contingent upon and change according to the conceptual, semantic, and cultural frameworks that support them (Baghriam,2020). Relativism's influence on politics and government is among its most important effects on civilization. Individual rights, variety, and tolerance are given a greater significance in a relativistic society. As a result, democratic ideals have gained popularity and the significance of plurality in decision-making processes has been acknowledged. Democracy is a form of governance followed in modern-day politics. This form of governance is predicated on the election of the government by the national residence. It is the people's rule, to put it plainly. Unlike political systems where power is retained by a small group of people or concentrated in the hands of one person, democracy distributes power and

equality to all. This encourages equality, which forbids discrimination by the government against individuals based on their caste, creed, religion, sex, race, or property. Everyone has the right to vote. Not only that, democracy safeguards the people's interest, which is the most valued aspect. Most significantly, this system discusses the obligation to the people. The power is in the ability of the average person. In this system, the social, economic, and political interests of the general public are prioritised above all else. On the other hand, the development of human rights frameworks has also been aided by relativism, as countries have come to understand the importance of respecting the various values and beliefs held by its citizens. Diversity in cultures, societies, and belief systems is encouraged to communicate and work together thanks to relativism. Individuals and communities can examine areas of agreement or dispute as well as shared values and goals through conversations. The establishment of human rights standards that are more inclusive and representative of the variety of the world can be influenced by this interchange of ideas and viewpoints.

Relativism does, however, also provide difficulties for government. Setting shared values and objectives for society can be challenging in the absence of a consensus on truth and morality. It may weaken public confidence in objective standards of accountability, openness, and the rule of law may be undermined by relativism, which could threaten democratic values and institutions. Political systems are vulnerable to misuse, manipulation, and corruption if there isn't a common commitment to these ideals, which would undermine democracy and good governance.

(b) Impact on Ethics and Morality:

Civilizations' ethics and morality have been significantly impacted by relativism. Under relativistic theory, moral plurality results from the absence of an objective standard for what is right or wrong. Thus, ethical conundrums and discussions may arise from the divergent moral views held by various cultures or individuals.

Since relativism acknowledges the diversity of moral viewpoints throughout nations, it can be seen as a force for tolerance and acceptance. It promotes tolerance and empathy for the moral beliefs of others, which leads to a more harmonious and inclusive community. Even most rural areas and its local culture have been substantially penetrated by foreign practices and institutions ranging from the modern state to products and practices. In the Third World today, we often see dual societies and patchwork practices that seek to accommodate seemingly irreconcilable old and new ways (Jack Donnelly, 1984). Relativism acknowledges the great cultural variances in moral acceptability and unacceptableness. This viewpoint expresses doubt on the existence of a single, universal code of morality and stresses the significance of appreciating and comprehending ethical diversity. Furthermore, relativism also encourages acceptance of many moral stances and lifestyles, which in turn promotes tolerance and pluralism. It encourages acceptance of variations in moral practices and beliefs, acknowledging that what is morally correct for one individual or group may not be the same for another. In multicultural communities, a focus on tolerance can promote social cohesiveness and harmonious coexistence.

Nevertheless, relativism also brings up the issue of moral relativism, which allows any behaviour to be justified in light of one's own subjective opinions. Moral ambiguity may result from this, leaving people feeling directionless. Without a strong moral compass, certain practices, such as child marriage, female genital mutilation, and discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender, or ethnicity, can be justified on the basis of cultural or traditional justifications, which suggests the dangerous conclusion that "anything goes"—that is, that sexist actions are acceptable in accordance with the values of a sexist culture, and slavery is just the norms of a slave society (Westacott, n.d). However, these actions are viewed as abuses of

people's basic rights to autonomy, equality, and bodily integrity from the standpoint of human rights.

(c) Impact on Religion and Spirituality:

Within civilizations, relativism has also had an impact on spirituality and religion. As people understand that faith is subjective, they have a greater tolerance of a wide range of religious practices and beliefs in a relativistic culture. As communities come to accept the notion that there are multiple routes to spiritual truth, there has been a rise in religious diversity as a result. An atmosphere of tolerance and pluralism can be fostered by relativism in spiritual and religious groups. Relativism promotes tolerance and interaction with other religious traditions by acknowledging the legitimacy of many beliefs and practices, which promotes interfaith cooperation as well as interaction. Open communication and exchange between many spiritual and religious traditions are encouraged by relativism. It promotes positive interaction and understanding amongst followers of different faiths by recognising the cultural and historical background of religious beliefs. Furthermore, the right of people to select their own spiritual practices and beliefs without worrying about criticism or punishment is supported by relativism. People can feel inclined to discover and express their spirituality in ways that are in line with their own beliefs and experiences when personal autonomy is prioritised. As people are allowed to select their own religion, they are able to investigate and combine spiritual practices and ideas from various religious traditions. This can enhance a person's spiritual journey and promote personal development.

Relativism has, nevertheless, also contributed to the decline of conventional belief. People may take a more individualised approach to spirituality when they begin to doubt the absolute truth claims made by religious institutions, looking outside of organised religion for fulfilment and meaning. People are prioritising their own autonomy and freedom of belief, which has contributed to the rise of secularism. The traditionalists usually oppose the following views:

1. Moral principle are not universally applicable, meaning that what is appropriate for one individual in a given scenario may not be appropriate for another.
2. There are sometimes justified exceptions to a correct moral principle.

3. Despite the validity of an established moral principle, we should occasionally show tolerance towards individuals who reject and disagree with it.

(Wood, 1995)

They thought that relativism will raise question about religious truth and morality and therefore people will start doubting their religion.

Conclusion:

In general, the ideology of relativism has influenced the development of civilizations significantly throughout history. The beliefs, values, and conventions of cultures have been influenced by it, affecting everything from politics and governance to ethics and morals. Relativism raises issues like moral relativism and the decline of established authority, even as it encourages diversity, tolerance, and individual liberties.

Establishing a balance between acknowledging shared ideals and recognising different viewpoints is crucial for the sake of society as nations continue to struggle with the complexity of relativism. The influence of relativism will continue to play a major role in the continuous effort to comprehend and navigate the difficulties of human existence. The effect of relativism on societal development will be a topic of discussion and investigation for as long as civilizations exist.

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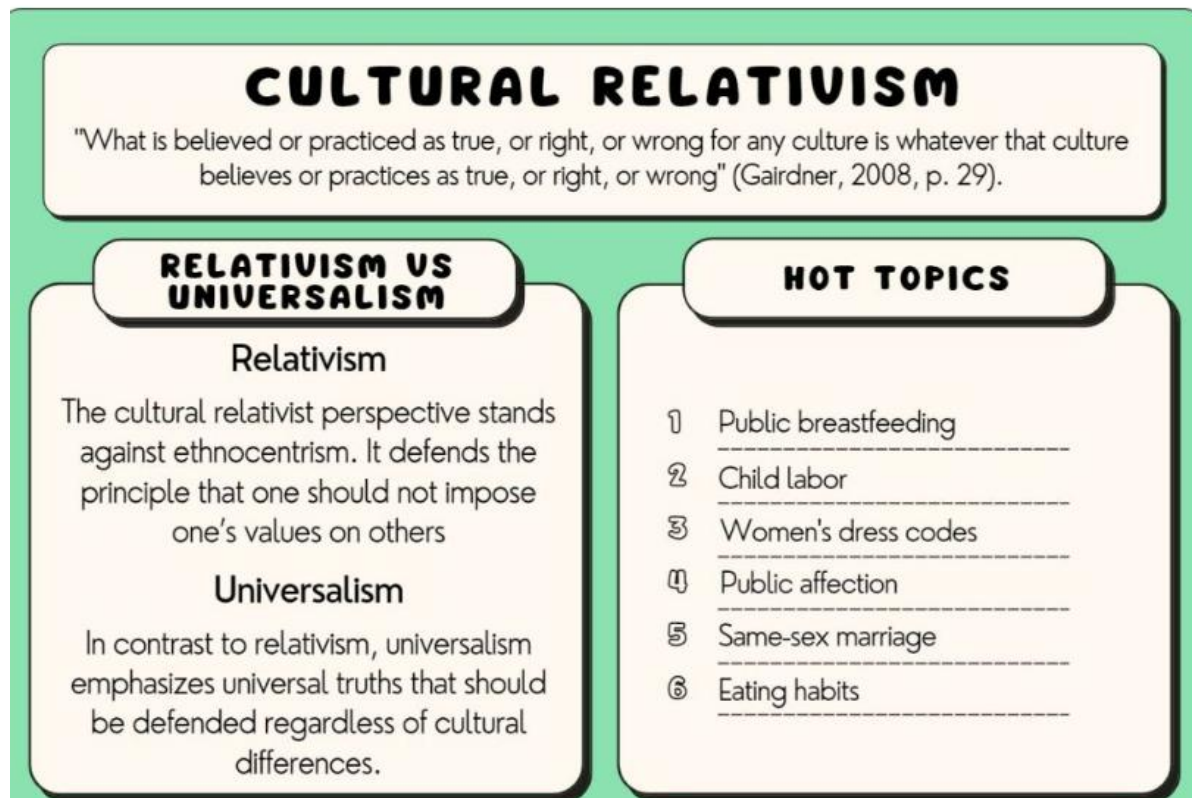
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LAMPIRAN

| | (I) Individual's viewpoints and preferences | (II) Historical Epochs | (III) Cultures, society, social groupings | (IV) Conceptual schemes, languages, frameworks | (V) Context of assessment, e.g., taste parameter, assessor's/agent's set of beliefs |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|
| (A) Cognitive norms, e.g., rationality, logic | Alethic Subjectivism/Epistemic Subjectivism | Alethic and Epistemic Historicism | Alethic Cultural Relativism/Epistemic Cultural Relativism | Alethic Relativism/Epistemic Relativism | Alethic Relativism |
| (B) Moral values | Moral Subjectivism | Ethical Historicism | Ethical Cultural/Social Relativism | Moral Conceptual Relativism | (New) Moral Relativism |
| (C) Aesthetic values | Aesthetic Subjectivism | Aesthetic Historicism | Aesthetic Cultural/Social Relativism | Aesthetic Conceptual Relativism | (New) Aesthetic Relativism |
| (D) Thoughts, Perception | Thought/percept Subjectivism | Thought/percept Historicism | Thought/percept Cultural/Social Relativism | Thought/percept Conceptual Relativism, Linguistic Relativity | N/A |
| (E) Propositions or tokens of utterances expressing personal preferences, future contingents, epistemic models, aesthetic and moral predicates | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | New Relativism |

Lampiran 1.0 – Domains of Relativization



Lampiran 2.0 – Examples of cultural relativism

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