



Introduction Tshepo 2 (2)

Development Studies (University of South Africa)



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ASSIGNMENT 2

Discuss the meaning of development within the context of economic, growth , modernisation and dependency.

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Introduction

A proper understanding of these theories is important and very useful for those delving into seeking understanding of how it is that these theories affect our world today. In this paper I will discuss the theory of development as it pertains to the involvement of economic growth, modernisation and dependency? About 50 years ago most of the African countries were decolonised, left in the state of shambles their economies were left in devastating states, because those who colonised them when harvesting the best of the resources in order to develop their own countries, leaving the owners of those countries and the country itself in the state of no progress and development.

In this paper we will be looking at how those concepts also feature in the world today and how they work hand in hand with each other in terms of influencing one another. Dependency theory is an approach to understanding the economic development of countries in terms of external influences such as politics, economic, and cultural effects on national development policies. The underdeveloped countries are so affected by how most of the western countries have exploited them, milking them of their own resources in order to enrich themselves in the process of doing so they end up crippling those underdeveloped countries from becoming developed as they are.

Development

Development means improvement in a country's economic and social conditions. In reference to improvements in the way of managing natural and human resources, in order to improve people's lives. People are held to be the principal actors in human scale development. There are also other key players to development which I will discuss in full details as follows.

Adequate educational levels

The more years go by the more the world becomes more advanced, and the more the world advances the more need for the relevant educational channels and settings which will be available to equip the people in order for them to be skilled and relevant to the ever-changing world and have with to offer in that world. The more people are empowered with the necessary skills they will be able to participate in the development of their nations. For example, let's say that, there are new machines operative needed in a sector of engineering and there are not people that can be able to operate those machines there must then be an educational system in place to make sure that there are people who will be trained in that line so that there can be advances made in that regard hence making room for development.

When the educational system is adequately developed to be able to provide the needed educational skills which are needed for the development of a nation. The more people of that nation are equipped with the skills necessary the more chance of improving and development does that nation have. The reason the developed countries thrive is because their educational system is well equipped with the necessary needed skill to be taught to their people. For example in China people there learn coding and technological advance while they are at a very young age, and when people grow to be inventors we say they are gifted, no, they are more taught to do just that.

Infrastructure development

For development to take place there has to be infrastructures which allow for development in a nation. The more we have infrastructure which support for our development such as, quality health facilities, investment in our industrial development. This will allow for us to improve on the things which are most important, like making available the platform which encourages the show off of inventions and young people empowered to pursue their dreams. But because of the lack of right infrastructure platforms which make for the empowerment of inventions and the technological advance which allow for inventions to thrive. For example there is hardly or none at all, in developing countries groundbreaking inventions in the fields of medicine because there are no viable medical infrastructures in place for that. All the breakthroughs come from the developed countries, because they have the resources that allow for such inventions.

For there to be development there must be tools and resources which are made for it and there must be people who are well equipped to make that happen. Meaning there must be funds available to make sure that inventions are funded and brought to the limelight for them to be seen. There must be willingness to empower societies, making sure that in every corner and society there is enough and adequate knowledge.

made available for every person and the right facilities are in place to make sure that that knowledge is practiced and put to go use.

Economic growth and modernisation

Economic growth is dependent on how developed the country is, and how exposed the people of the nation are they to the resources made available to them. For example, let's look at china, china is one on the richest countries in the country that has over 2trillion dollars in savings. China is the only country that is never in debt but every country in Africa is indebted to. There are thing which are done in china which makes it what it is. In china the people there are exposed to the educational system that offers technological training to their people from a very tender age. Because most of the world's economic growth is dependent on technology, chine is thriving in that aspect and has great domination in that field this makes them one the worlds super power country because they are leading and breaking grounds in the fields of technology the great need for development in our world today.

Most of the underdeveloped countries do not have the technological advantages that are made for a radical economic growth, which makes them to always relay on the developed countries for technological resources which are meant for the empowerment of their economic growth. For instance in this regard, there is not a country in the African continent that has the technological means for refining the natural minerals found within them. All the minerals such as gold, diamonds, and platinum just to name a few, they are all harvested here in Africa sold out of the country in a less amount because they still need to be refined so that they can be made into finished products, such as jewellery, and when they get returned to those countries they sell them at a more expensive price than they bought them.

For economic growth to happen in a nation there has to be an understanding if the policies and the traditional influence on how they do play a part in the process. Most of the underdeveloped countries where traditionally oriented, so much so that some of them by holding on to the traditions in this ever changing world has affected them not to implement certain policies which will or may lead to the development of their economies. As the world changes things developed nations and the pupils there in must learn to adjust from some of their traditional perception and break some of the tradition barriers standing against the economic growth. For instance, a country whereby is majorly populated by females and they say that women are not supposed to spearhead corporates or even go to school such a nation is bound to never experience the development necessary because the development of a nation is dependent in the active pupils available to be industrious in various industries.

It is said that in modernisation the rich countries are the solution to the poor countries. But how does that happen, how can they be the solution? We see most rich countries lending money to the supposed poor nation which are the underdeveloped countries helping them to cover expenses here there claim that those funds are to help them develop their nations and help with economic growth. However, if I may, there is this saying which goes like, teach me to how to catch a fish. With this I want to emphasise a point of saying I believe that if the developed countries are going to be the solution to the poor ones, they must then provide them with the resources necessary for them to be able to refine their own mineral resources because those are the most expensive resource that are able to contribute to sustainable economic growth. If the developed countries can stop lending out money and sell them the technological resources needed to manufacture their own products. It is said that most of the American crops are genetically engineered crops they are not natural, so for poor countries to export foods to the rich nations is not making them much profits as the rich countries make when exporting the finished products of the mineral resources harvested from the poor countries.

The concept of development as dependency.

The dependency theory explains how the first world countries continue to profit and flourish at the expense of the third world countries. Whereby the first world countries take resource from the third world countries and this has left the third world countries economies to remain stagnant. These actions has kept the third world countries perpetually dependent on the first world countries for their development and growth of their economies.

The first world countries keep the undeveloped countries perpetually dependent on them, based on the fact that the developed countries are never willing to make available the necessary resources which are made for the development of these countries, it's more like instead of teaching them how to fish they just want to keep supplying them with fish so that they can be perpetually be dependent on them for survival and the development of their nations. The more the underdeveloped countries continue to dependent of the developed countries they will never see real development their nations. The under developed nations are mostly dependent on the developed countries to refine their raw resource for use whereby when those resources are refined by the developed countries they resell them to these underdeveloped countries at a much higher price than they bought them before they were refined. For instance there Nigeria is one the largest supplier of oil in the world if not the first, however there is no industry in that nation which can refine that oil into the day-to-day needed use like petrol, diesel. So what happened is that the developed countries with hold the resources deemed necessary for the refinery of the oil, so after the oil extracted from the ground is them send to the developed countries for refinery because that's when the oil is more useful to the people when it's refined. After it is refined it sold back to the same nation at a very high price.

They have no choice but to buy it no matter the cost because if valuable use to the world. By doing so the underdeveloped countries have no choice but to continually be dependent to the developed countries because in all fairness the resources which they have are fairly nit that useful without being refined. So the developed nations deliberately hold the resources needed to make refineries of those resources because they know that they will be the ones who will then need and depend on the so called underdeveloped nations because as we know most of the underdeveloped countries are the ones that have the most needed resource which can't or can rarely be found on the grounds of the developed countries.

For there to be a development in an area or nation there must be a supply of resources needed for the development desired. For as long as the underdeveloped countries are still dependent on the developed countries they will never be radical development which will in turn make for the development and growth, which will be profound.

When we look at the political state of then underdeveloped countries, their politics are mostly developed countries controlled because that's how dependent the underdeveloped countries are on the developed countries. For instance there was a time that the world court ordered the president of South Africa to play a role in the arrest on the president of Russia when he was supposed to come their bricks meeting, for some reason the meeting was cancelled. Most of the countries which are their leader are not overly controlled by the developed countries are in abject poverty and suffering, for instance look at Zimbabwe, when the late president came in power it is said that every extraction of resources done in his country there must be fees which will be paid, and the refinery of the product which will be sold be to the country to the corporate of the developed nations in his country they must pay a certain fee on profits which they made. The Zimbabwean president was one of the African presidents whom happen to be not much liked by the leaders of the developed country because of his stand of not wanting to be dependent on them.

It also happened that when the president of Uganda pass a bill which abhors homosexuals in the nation, it was reported that there was a threat that a certain nation was going to stop certain amounts of funds to go through which would help in the fight against HIV/AIDS in that nation just because the president never agreed to say that there should a homosexual practice in his nation. Lives were threatened because the president stood against homosexuality in his nations, such a threat by the developed countries, what does that say? To me that clearly state how controlling those developed countries are over the underdeveloped nations.

Conclusion.

The perspective of these theories are a pointer as to why there is so much abject and suffering in the underdeveloped countries as there is today. Because when you look at it there are no nations in the world that are or were supposed to be power house or the developed as the countries which are known as the underdeveloped nation, because they have the most important resources which can make that happen. However because the colonisation the same became a reverse making the underdeveloped countries the most poor countries, because they have not took from the have to enrich themselves and enslaving the

underdeveloped countries in the process.

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