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Business Ethics

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Assignment 8 Chapter 2 (Part III)

In this chapter Schumacher continues to talk about how Intermediate Technology can tame the wild animal that is technology and use it to help the common good of rich as well as developing countries. He reminds the readers that while he was residing in India he learned that most of the citizens lived in rural areas. Even in rural areas there has to be economy of sorts, so Schumacher concentrates on the issue of developing a flourishing economy for them With technology being a constant catalyst for growth, it can be applied to benefit the poor rural areas. Even though, technology and nature have always been in constant battle with nature, with IT it can be used to effectively integrate itself into agriculture, which is a vital part of not only rural economies but every economy. Many think that this combination is impossible or extremely hard to calculate, but if achieved the conditions would be the most helpful to humanity.

In the rich countries, Schumacher debunked their ideals that they create the technology and those advancements (after they are able to have lesiure) will soon trickle down to poor countries. The ideal at the moment can be seen as a “static approach” as it might seem abstract and unreal, but in reality it can be a “dynamic approach” as it can actually consider the reactions of real people. If the rich countries are truly held to that “dynamic” standard, then the development of methods and equipment that are cheap enough to be accessible to the whole of humanity, suitable for small scale application, and be compatible with mankind's creativity can be possible (Chapter 2). With this innovation, Schumacher believes that the economies of developing countries can finally be improved upon. For a longtime rich countries only focused on their wants over the needs of the developing countries, which is a reason why this “trickle” has not truly occurred yet. Schumacher believes that once pride and greed are taken out of the equation, then and only then, can ours system benefit us and mankind.