

Remark on History

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The history of human kind has been developed from a long time ago on the earth that looks like nothing but one point in the grandiose universe. The question “**What is the history of human kind ?**” is raised naturally. Many historians have tried to answer this natural question. First of all, in this essay I mention briefly the views on history held by the 21th century famous historians Arnold J. Toynbee (1889~1975) and Edward H. Carr (1892~1982).

Toynbee studied the *genesises, growths, breakdowns, and disintegrations* of twenty-three civilizations existed on the earth in the monumental twelve volumes, **A Study of History** (cf. <7>) which were released between 1934 and 1961. He traced the rise and fall of twenty-three civilizations which he defined as the self-contained political and cultural product of a creative minority. He presented the theory of *Challenge to Response*. He argued that civilizations develop in different ways due to their different environments and different approaches to the challenges of extreme difficulty they face. He argued that the growth of civilizations is driven by “*Creative Minorities*”: those who find solutions to the challenges, who inspire others to follow their innovative lead. He argues that civilizations disintegrate when their leaders stopped responding creatively to some challenges of extreme difficulty. Unfortunately after 1960, his ideas faded both in the academia and the media, to the point of seldom being cited today.

Carr argues in his famous book, “**What is History ?**” (cf. <2>) that *history is a continuous dialogue with the past, and it is always necessarily selective*. He also argues that *history is a science and it evolves*. A little more precisely, history is a continual process: a dialogue between the historians at the present day and the historical facts of the past,

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and the relative weight of individuals and social elements on both sides of the equation. History is considered a science in the sense that it involves collective data of historical facts which are systematic and arranged well in chronological order through scientific tools.

I want to argue that the history of humankind is classified into the following five types (I), (II), (III), (VI) and (V):

(I) Wars between countries

Jean-Jacques Rousseau (1712~1778) said that wars break out in order to attack (infringe) the sovereignty and social treaty between countries. Simply speaking, wars transform the laws of the defeated nations into the new different laws (cf. <8>, pp. 44-46). For example, the wars such as the Peloponnesian War (431~404 BC) (cf. <1>), the unification war of the Qin dynasty (秦朝, 221~206 BC) in the Warring States period (戰國時代), the wars in the establishment of the Roman Empire, the Napoleon War and the second World War broke out in order to gain the (desire for) ruling power, governance desire and desire for material and land expansion. On the other hand, Samuel P. Huntington (1927~2008) argued that in the future the wars would be fought not between countries, but between cultures, and that Islamic extremism would become the biggest threat to the world peace (cf. <3>).

(II) Civil Wars and Revolutions

Civil wars and revolutions have created a new history. The American Civil War (April 12, 1861~May 9, 1865), the English Civil War (1642~1651), the Boshin War (戊辰戦争, 1868~1869), the Battle of Hakodate (箱館戦争, 1868~1869) and the Seinan War (西南戦争, 1877) are good examples of the historically successful civil wars. The French Revolution (May 5, 1789~Nov 9, 1799) is one of the historically

successful revolutions. The Chinese Civil War (國共內戰, 1927~1936, 1945~1949) is considered as a success by some historians and on the other hand, as a failure by some historians.

(III) Wars against Nature Disasters

For a long time human beings have fought against the nature calamities, for example, earthquake, flood, draught, epidemics, change of climate and so on.

(IV) Wars against AI and Dataism

We are facing these wars at the present day and will face these wars in the future. Nowadays most of the world's people are controlled, tracked and monitored through the bio-digital social programming via the AI human bio-digital network. Humanity is in grave danger of being destroyed through AI automation, bio-metrics and robotics. We refer to <4> and <5> for some details.

(V) Wars inside Selves

These essential and important wars have been fought inside selves of human beings for a long time and will be fought inside selves forever. At the present time human beings seem to lose their moral codes based on virtue. We must try to discover our "true selves" based on virtue and free-will in order to make the world better. These wars are closely related to and interwoven in virtues, ethics, conscience, reason, rationality, goodness, freedom, faith and religion.

The remarkably and incredibly big historical events occurred in China and the Korean Peninsula in 1912 and 1948 respectively. Mostly during the period 221 BC ~ AD 1912, China had been ruled by the emperors with the absolute power. Starting with the ascendance of the Qin Shi Huang(秦始皇) of the Qin dynasty (秦朝, 221~206 BC) and

ending with the abdication of the last emperor Puyi (溥儀; 宣統帝, 1906~1967) of the Qing dynasty (清朝, 1636~1912), the empire was replaced by the republic state, and totalitarianism (totalitarian system) was replaced by republicanism (republican system) in 1912. In the Korean Peninsula, liberating from the rule of the kingdoms and the colony rule by Japan, Korean people established the democratic republic state in 1948. Also the historical event occurred in Japan after 1945. After surrendering completely to the American army in the Pacific War on August 15th, 1945, thereafter Japan was forced by the American government to transform the imperialistic state into the democratic state.

[References]

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