MODERNISM: ORIGIN AND GROWTH

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Abstract: This study has been undertaken to investigate the facts of Modernism. The origin of the modernism and its growth is the most colloquial things to find out. It deals with the definition and terminology of modernism with its full glance in the history. It focuses on the necessity of modernism in the world. The world was obscured through the past affairs and incidents. The Western and the Indian modernism’s aspects are included in this study. The great impact of the world’s events and literature are the cunning points of Modernism which included here with specific examples and reference of the creative literary documents. The purpose of the study is to denote the contemporary values of the Modernism.

Ezra Pond says that – “It is quite obvious that we do not of all us inhabits the same time.” (Ezra Pond 1)

Every age is the modern age, on its perceptive of denoting time and situation as well. No one can justify, the modernism as by their time because modernism is closely associated with the new charm of life at every stage. It is the perceptive enigma of the human mind which is ever set and over set as a configuration of new things and transcendent of life and the transcendent of livelihood in whole of the sector of insanity in one’s life. From the primitives, modernism had been manage and accepted by the people in form of overwhelming new to newest things. As per the modernism is concern, it is one of the co-section of modernism which show something is different and distinctive in present than they had in past. The invention of science had existed from last few decades but the process had started at the thousands of year age in the hands of nature, the human being accepted the law of nature and permitted it in their lives. Gradually, these laws have been transforming and coherent with this scientific trust and the co-existence of science and nature had commanded the small part of modernity. This formation of small part becomes the great hub of preferable changes and comforts of human lives so it is snatched the highest peak of the modernism. Modernism is not just adjusted in a single definition but it has varied and wide area of explanation. Everything of nature has the direct effect of modernism on the platform of primitives’ time to the present filament. Modernism is the most precious element of the human life which brings the human at its utmost level of rise. Modernism works as a powerful device which is confronted the movement in human life. This is not an ordinary movement but it affects the all of the areas in which the human beings pass their lives. It makes the gradual changes into cultural flabbergast, infallibility and enigmatical provocation with an outstanding promotion of atomicity. The cultural trends and fashion are ever being depended on the specific changes of particularity, sometimes gradually and sometimes swiftly, but the major proclamation of association of common people with modernity is occurred through some pompous manners and locality. The down trodden class and middle class follow the rules and regulations about life living blindly without taking care of its blundering effects and impression.

“Arising out of the rebellious mood at the beginning of the twentieth century, modernism was a radical approach that yearned to revitalize the way modern civilization viewed life, art, politics, and science. This rebellious attitude that flourished between 1900 and 1930 had, as its basis, the rejection of European culture for having become too corrupt, complacent and lethargic, ailing because it was bound by the artificialities of a society that was too preoccupied with image and too scared of change. This dissatisfaction with the moral bankruptcy of everything European led modern thinkers and artists to explore other alternatives, especially primitive cultures. For the Establishment, the result would be cataclysmic; the new emerging culture would undermine tradition and authority in the hopes of transforming contemporary society.” (Article 2)

The modernism has the wide and different meaning. According to the various countries and people modernism has the variety of its action in the people of the particular countries. Sometimes its changes
applied closely into the provinciality of same country. The reason of its varied action and types is that it is
depend on the cultural aspects of the country or province. In this sense, the western culture is differing from
the eastern culture. The Asian countries are found late in the history for obtaining the changes but naturally
while the countries of United States and United Kingdom are found eager to obtain the opportunity of new
and modern applications easily with some lucid scientific pragmatic planning. However, the changes in the
related fields is not under constructed to the meaning of modernism but the better progressive area of
modernism is the apprehended with its particular usage and comforts of life which can make higher level of
strange thinking with the necessitute lucidity. The western culture is more vigorous and hygienic than the
eastern culture, so by and large it is plainly referred that the approach of modernism is always cross the line
of the historical perspectives in its relative fields with the message of appreciative pedestrian of vernacular
problems in accordance with its prolonged acceptance and embarrassment. With these references, the
meaning of modernism is continuously collated the permisibility of variation in the different areas of the
world.

The every civilisation of the world marked by its modern perspectives of the opinions and views
which contains the self realization of something new and better proximity of life which are closely
formatted through the comfortable panorama of applied policies. Most of the great civilizations had been
followed by this truth of affirmation in their desire. The newly born ideas were welcomed by them with
warmth and with full heart including the ideas of difficulties and troublesome hard works for their next
generation so their predecessors enjoy the life with new charm of infallibility.

“Modernism has a reputation for being a forbidding phenomenon: its visual arts disconcertingly non-
representational, its literary efforts devoid of the consolations of plot and character - even its films, it's
argued, fall well short of that true desideratum: entertainment.” (Will Self 3)

Modernism is word which present with its new changes in human being’s life. It considers simply as a
philosophy. It stands as a movement against the ancient age’s era of the world. It is a product of tediousness
of people from the old encounters of the world. The traditionalism and old cultures were rapidly changed
due to modernism. The 19th and 28th century witnessed of these changes in trends and cultural affairs. The
elements of modernism stroke over the specific phenomenon of the society. The people were tried from the
rigidity of Victorian era so the welcomed modernism with full their hearts. The aspiration to go better from
the best devoted them to oblige. It was the plain rejection of old systems of religious misunderstanding,
unrestrained, devaluate socialism, the sense of old art, architectures, infirmity and literature. It had eccentric
effects on the social, political and economic aspects of the contemporary situation: It was propaganda to
remove the useless ecclesiastical phenomenon and a natural attempt of up gradation of life. There were
many peculiar changes brought for the society by modernism. It was like a recreation and reborn of people.
Modernism fulfilled the wishes of people to create a new world in accordance to broad thinking and
acceptance of individual freedom. It gave an important to individual more than the boundary of socio
religions’ blind follow.

The application of technology demonstrates the hidden span of life. The modernism spread in Europe
and United States. It born the number of movements in the western world, gradually, the world stretched
under its influences. Throughout the world, modernism’s form came to light with its common features of
wonderment. Advanced forms of modernism brought human life catastrophic and richness of development
to the related all fields. Arts and humanities constructed the new apprehended proximity in one’s life. The
people were upgraded from the world of superstition, magic and supernatural elements to the world of
reality and apparent facts. The discrimination of the previous ages was also a powerful approximation so the
modernism had faced the confliction for its establishment but people’s conviction set it with strong
decisiveness.

Modernism originated in the Western world. It is not occurred through any specific factor. It has been
brought by the inclusion of several factors. After the death of Queen Victoria, the people attracted with the
new trends of life. The people were tired from the system governed in Victorian era. They were decisive to
make change in their lives. As well as, some thinkers of that time has tried to construct the innovative ideas
through their literature. The people were in chaotic situations due to the First World War. The destruction of
this was had removed their faith from Gods and religion security. The western culture destroyed from these
gigantic incidents. In this difficult time, Ezra Pond has applied the word “Make it new.” (Ezra Pond 4)To
prepared the foundation of modernism. There was a break between the new and old century. The
experiments had been taken a place for innovations. Darwin’s work Origin of Species (1859) presented with
the new outlook of human life which informed that man has been developed chronically from the other
human beings. There is no difference between the other living beings and humans. His thought gave birth a new era. His book rapidly spread in all over the world. People came out from the ideas of God.

Then, Freud made strong this sense of Godless earth. He interpreted the human mind on the basis of psycho-analysis study through his book *The Interpretation of Dreams* (1900). He talks about the human senses, sub-conscious mind and psychology in his books which was accepted by people. It creates the curiosity to know about the conscious and sub conscious minds. It insulted the Victorian motifs and rules. It brought the mental renaissance in people. The other authors followed Freud and wrote their works with the emphasis of internal world of mind than external falsify world. Afterwards, Einstein’s Theory of Relativity had changed the way of thinking in western culture. He said that – “Everything is relative, nothing is absolute.” (Einstein 5) These doctrine upgraded people toward the modernism. Then Nietzsche’s philosophy against Christianity claimed that – “God is dead.” (Nietzsche 6) He established the importance of human than any other factors. According to him, religion, society, traditions etc. are vein against an individual. His thoughts about life and western culture were negative. He neglected the ideas of centuries in a moment. His thoughts are framed on the structure of existentialism.

In the literary context, modernism sustained its existence through the attempts of some notable literary figures. There were no king maker of this movement but natural, the era established its long lasting impression in literature. The literature becomes a powerful allowance of modern age. It gradually developed in literature and informed people about its smooth sides. The writers like Virginia Woolf, T S Eliot, D H Lawrence and James Joyce wrote over the modern beneficiary aspects for the welfare of common people. They succeed to convince the necessity of modernism to save the individualism. They showed that modernism advocates the truth and reality of living a proper life. They set modernism is art of living. They strongly opposed the traditionalism in their works. For an example – T S Eliot notes in his *The Wasteland* (1922) that the literature should not have any boundaries and suppression of framed genre. Another example of modernism found in James Joyce *Ulysses* (1922) which attacks on the socio-political system and advocates the modernism.

In words of T. S. Eliot –

“... a way of controlling, of ordering, of giving a shape and a significance to the immense panorama of futility and anarchy which is contemporary history... instead of narrative method, we may now use the mythical method. It is, I seriously believe, a step toward making a modern world possible for art.”

(Review of Ulysses by James Joyce 7)

In short modernism received the aspects to break the traditionalism and people have started to express their views freely. The experiments have taken a place in all fields. The tone of modernism provides new attention on the prohibited things. The people have started to finds reason of happenings and fulfilled their unconscious desires. The impassionate minds are accepted the variedness of impartiality.

Works Cited: