

Some remarks on the influence of and over the mind

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The understanding about the essence of the human spirit is inseparably connected with the abilities, limitations and the perspectives of its activity. In this activity the subject produces an impact over the object, initiating purpose-directed changes in it. And the object responds to the stimulation, while the positions of this process of giving and receiving are reversible. This is, it is possible in another relationship the object to play the role of a subject. So a chain of subject and object relationships is created.

Fig. 1



In any case the processes of giving and receiving among the individuals and the groups of people are mediated by the spirit, by the consciousness. In relations to this by way of several theses we are going to offer some considerations about the matter.

I. "...finding ways to develop approach toward education" Rev. Sun Myung Moon

The relationships of mind and body, consciousness and matter, sung-sang and hyung-sang, subject and object are connected with a whole consequence of processes and aspects. Attributed to them are: motivating and stimulating the activity of the subject; subject's influence over the object; the reversibility of the processes of give-and-take. As we mentioned the object can be another subject too (for example, with cases of psychic influence), thus having the potential of indirect stimulation over the activity of the subject. At this , in all of the above mentioned situations the aspects of the philosophical methodology which was formed in the 20th century can find its place:

- ontological / the theory of the original image and traditional ontology/;
- epistemological
- connected to values /axiological/
- praxiological /connected to the efficiency of a certain activity/

It must be particularly pointed out that to the topic we are considering, are significantly related not only the ontological and epistemological aspects of the spirit but also the axiological and the praxiological ones. The fact that the latter haven't been sufficiently researched till the present, is a further reason why they have to be dealt with in detail in the future. And it is not by chance that the Rev. Moon gives guidelines in this direction of research.

II. "In the 21st century wealth will not be dominating factor. Instead, the human spirit and human soul shall be dominant.", Rev. Sun Myung Moon

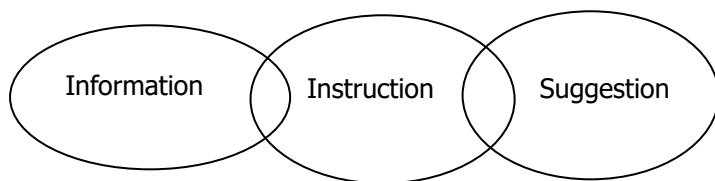
In all ages men have been interested with the mechanisms by which the mutual influence and stimulation is carried out between two human beings. For good or for evil the psychic influences to a different extent produce impact

over the people. To these phenomena there should be applied differentiated approach in accordance with their source, purpose and possible consequences. The problem about the psychic influences is not simply historical, it has applications nowadays too. This is a result of a whole sequence of circumstances, such as – intensification and deepening of the social relationships; the invasion of the mass media in the life of the individual, the group and mankind as a whole; the expansion of the cultural exchange, the improvement of the level of education etc. This issue is a point of convergence in solving a number of practical tasks, which in a way produce impact and stir the mind of all our contemporaries and all communities.

By “influence” it is meant a certain action or purposefully chosen consequence of actions, which are executed once or systematically on the human being, society or some other object aiming at attaining a certain / desirable, anticipated, and necessary for somebody/ effect. Such an act of influence is always conscious, reasonably grounded and purpose-directed. Mediation is typical of psychic influence. The objective influence would not cause a certain change in the behavior, if it is not capable in changing the situation in the mediating factor – the psychic reality.

The three basic forms of psychic influence are information, instruction and suggestion. The information, instruction and suggestion to a different extent depend on the self-regulating mechanisms of the personality as a system. The information transforms into a means/form/ of psychic influence, when its presentation becomes organized. The other two forms of psychic influence – instruction and suggestion – without losing essence of being information / i.e. to take away the quality of indefiniteness and to support the decision-making/ - depend less on the self-regulated mechanisms of the individual. Information, instruction and suggestion, though relating in a different way to man as a self-regulating system, are not separated from each other. On the contrary there is mutual convergence among them.

Fig. 2



/Psychic influence meaning internal, spiritual influence/

Fig. 3

In psychic influences, bearing in mind the broad notion of this term, are included not only the verbal forms of communication / though important they may be/ but also the personal example of behavior, socio-psychic characteristics of the community, the objective environment, as well as the physical and spiritual environment, the technical appliances used in the professional and household activities etc – as long as they are all utilized deliberately with the purpose of personality formation.

Of course, the problem of the psychic influence requires a comprehensive research – methodological /from the view point of Unification thought/, historic, theoretic, experimental.

III. “When we are stimulated by our family, we can feel in our present daily life the ideal of the Kingdom of Heaven – which is to come in the future. That’s why husband and wife are needed. Husband

and wife can live eternally through such stimulation. Development is impossible without stimulation."/
Rev. Sun Myung Moon

Undoubtedly the motivation behind a certain activity is of primary significance. As the heart puts into motion the intellect and the will, by subordinating the emotions, by the same token the basis of all activities is their motivation. And the motivation is not a momentary act, but it needs permanent stimulation.

Under the notion of "stimulus of an activity" /routinely labor-like; creatively labor-like; educational; games and others/ it is understood all the processes and relations encouraging the individual to strive for higher efficiency in their activities. The stimuli are absolutely necessary for the process of motivation, as well as for the intensification and optimization of the activities. According to different criteria they can be defined as follows:

- A. Positive / award "the carrot"/ and negative /punishment "the rod"/
- B. Individual and public
- C. According to the prevailing system of influences: connected to the outlook / religious, philosophical;/ moral; ethical; educational / depending on the "blood lineage", the education coming from the external environment in the broad sense of the word, self-educational;/ psycho-physiological; economic; legal.

With the first groups there come into the spotlight the internal four-position foundations, and with the last ones – the external four position foundations.

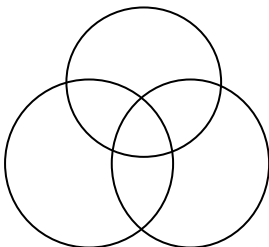
At this point in a nut shell the following peculiarities will be pointed out:

- 1. As it was mentioned in /11/ all the overlapping stimuli have a comprehensive and systematic influence;
- 2. Ultimately the priority should be given to the stimuli of the internal four-position foundation / and this means priority of the public to the individual purposes/.
- 3. In relation to the above mentioned the purpose is to achieve priority of the stimuli, leading to the realization of the public goals / of the bigger communities, mankind and God/.

In the system of stimuli are included processes and relations both of the spiritual and physical reality. But we have to emphasize the fact that all the stimuli act through the consciousness. Even the predominantly material ones / of hyung-sang, of external four-position foundation/ have internal four-position foundation too. The material stimuli create an emotional disposition which excites the will and the intellect.

Here is not presented a detailed diagram of the activity stimuli, but it is just pointed out their mutual interweaving and comprehensive influence.

Fig. 4



And as we are emphasizing the perspectives on this matter, it is particularly worth mentioning that since recently a new unit of increasing significance has been added to the system of the activity stimuli – i.e. HUN-DOK-HWE. With it the comprehensive nature of stimuli is being expressed while the priority is on the internal motivation /i.e. the internal four-position foundation/ and the public purposes, preceding the individual ones.

IV. "When we work with a greater thought, a greater will, the standard that is lower than that will be included" / Rev. Sun Myung Moon

A method of stimulating is produced with the participation in an competitive activity and with the building-up of COMPETATIVE SPIRIT. And this is a stimulus both for the individual and for the group of people. It is necessary immediately to make the remark that the most important thing in a competition is TO SURPASS ONESELF, TO EXPAND THE INTERNAL RESERVE OF ONE'S PERSONALITY. This means strengthened self-control, trust in one's own abilities and search for a higher and higher standard of self-realization. In this way it is possible to reach fulfillment of the self. Each one should strive to surpass oneself and one's own achievements in the accomplishment of the common purpose. Ultimately this is determined by the common purpose of the notion.

I want to particularly mention that in the Bulgarian branch of PWPA professor Lozan Stoimenov is making a detailed research of the principles of the social competition. Undoubtedly this creates various practical opportunities.

In these remarks we just briefly mentioned some of the problems. Of course, each one of these matters which were just considered in the form of short theses can be expanded to an overall theory. All the matters considered above are related to the axiological and praxiological aspects of the human spirit. They can be also a good incentive for finding out the methodological potential of Unification Thought.

The purpose behind this short exposition was by showing the multiple aspects of the topic to awaken the interest of more colleagues of different fields to start a creative discussion. Because as once a poet said:

"I don't come to solve things by myself
But I came to sing
And may our voices sound as one".

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