



# DIROSAT

Journal of Education, Social Sciences & Humanities

Vol. 1, No. 4, 2023 ISSN : 2985-5497

<https://dirosat.com>

Research Article

## The Urgency Of Studying Philosophy And Its Scope

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Received : July 14, 2023

Revised : August 08, 2023

Accepted : September 12, 2022

Available online : October 14, 2023

**How to Cite:** Zidna Fahma. (2023). The Urgency Of Studying Philosophy And Its Scope. *DIROSAT: Journal of Education, Social Sciences & Humanities*, 1(4), 167–174. <https://doi.org/10.58355/dirosat.vii4.47>

**Abstract.** The aim of this research is to explain the importance of studying philosophy, scope, figures and branches of philosophy. This research is a type of library research, research whose object of study uses a bibliography in the form of books, journals, articles as data sources. The characteristics of philosophical thinking are: descriptive, critical and analytical, evaluative or normative, speculative and systematic. So, philosophy can generally be interpreted as a science that investigates everything that exists to obtain the ultimate truth. The scope of philosophy is logic, aesthetics, ethics and metaphysics.

**Keywords :** Philosophy, Logic, Ethics, Science

### INTRODUCTION

Philosophy is the mother of science. Natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities, all three originate from philosophy. Many people, especially students,

think that studying philosophy is very boring. In fact, if we examine it further, studying philosophy means we learn the full nature of life, and studying philosophy is very important for prospective teachers who will be involved in the world of education. Because basically studying philosophy means learning about the origins of science and studying philosophy will give its own color to educators who will educate the nation's sons and daughters. Therefore, this article will try to explore further about philosophy and its scope.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **Understanding Philosophy**

It may be known that the word philosophy comes from the Greek word "philosophia", consisting of the word "philos" which means love or friend and the word sophia which means wisdom, discernment or knowledge. So, philosophia means love of wisdom or love of truth, in this case the truth of science.

Then to understand the meaning of philosophy by understanding what philosophers do. We realize that in everyday life people often experience things that they don't understand, which raises questions within them and arouses their curiosity. Many events that occur in nature are truly amazing, awe inspiring, even frightening. The twinkling stars at night, the ever-moving blue ocean, even earthquakes.

For example, the Tsunami incident in Aceh and in several places which destroyed buildings and claimed many victims are some examples of powerful natural events. Of course, this event can raise questions about what really happened and what is the origin of everything that exists in nature. This was also a question and thought for several people around 600 –to 200 years before Christ (BC) in Greece.

The age of philosophy in the history of science is quite long. Philosophy is older than all science and most religions. However, for most ordinary people, even some scientists, think that philosophy is something vague or something that seems useless because it is the result of mere "daydreaming", without methods, without progress, and full of differences and disagreements.

Philosophy is the study of science and wisdom to seek and discover the ultimate truth. The word philosophia means love of knowledge of the ultimate truth, namely wisdom (wisdom, wisdom and wisdom). However, a philosopher's love for wisdom is not the same as the love of a knowledge gatherer. Philosophers are not interested in accumulating knowledge that has been discovered by other people. Apparently, philosophers are more interested in the process of searching for knowledge that has or has not been discovered by other people.

Philosophers always really find the ultimate truth in the sense of the core truth of the totality of the whole, namely the ultimate truth that is possible for them to achieve. Let us think for a moment about what Jujun S. Suriasumantri (1985: 19) describes in his book *Philosophy of Science: A Popular Introduction*.

### **Philosophical Figures**

These Greek philosophers lived around the century BC. Even though they have been dead for hundreds of years, their thoughts have contributed to the science of

philosophy. The following are philosophical figures:

### **Thales**

Thales of Miletus, who is estimated to have lived between 624 –and 548 BC, is considered to be the first person to try to find answers to questions about the origin of all natural objects. He lives on an island and every day he sees the vast ocean, which besides being able to provide life for the people on the island, can also cause disaster for the fishermen. He once traveled to Egypt and saw how the Nile river water could be used by the surrounding population for agricultural purposes.

Therefore, he believes that the origin of everything that exists is water. Water, which is always moving and never still, is seen as the principle of life for everything that exists. Try to think about how they think and their views are greatly influenced by the natural phenomena found in their living environment, where water is very dominant. Without water, humans cannot maintain their lives, because humans are very dependent on water.

### **Anaximenes**

In contrast to Thales, Anaximenes, who lived between 585 –and 528 BC, was of the view that the basis for all objects and life in nature is air. He put forward this view on the basis of the idea that humans and all living creatures breathe, that is, they take in the air that surrounds the universe. Air is the source of life because without air all creatures will die. So, air is the origin of everything that exists. The movement of air causes the various types of contents of the universe to occur.

### **Heracleitos**

Herakleitos, who lived around 540-480 –BC, argued that nothing is permanent in this world. Everything certainly changes. So, the essence of everything is change itself. Change is symbolized as the nature of fire. Therefore, he believes that the basis of everything is fire.

This change takes place under a law which he calls logos, meaning right thought. The word logic that you know today comes from the word logos. You believe that the eternal is God, the creator of this universe. People who think use their minds to find out what is the basis or origin of everything or the nature of things, as well as the laws that underlie the changes that occur in them.

### **Pythagoras**

Pythagoras lived between 580 –and 500 BC and lived in the city of Kroton, Southern Italy. He is known as someone who always tries to cleanse his spiritual life in order to achieve perfection in life. By means of "mummification", humans cleanse their souls so that when they die, their souls will gain happiness. Apart from that, Pythagoras was also known as a mathematician.

It is not too surprising that he taught his students that the origin of everything is number or number. His view of the universe started from numbers. In his opinion, nature is structured as numbers. Therefore, humans will gain knowledge about nature through their knowledge of numbers.

## **Leukippos**

Leukippos lived in the city of Miletus. Data about his life is not widely known. He is considered to be the first person to talk about atoms. This opinion was later developed by Democritus. Therefore, when we discuss atomic theory, these two people are considered to have made initial contributions to the theory. Leukippos, who is estimated to have carried out his activities between 450 –and 420 BC, expressed his view that everything that exists consists of atoms and empty space, which are infinite in number.

An object is different from other objects because of its shape, arrangement, position, and collisions between atoms. You need to know that the word atom consists of the words which mean not and tomos which means divided. So, Leukippos argued that atoms were indivisible.

## **Democritos**

The view of Democritus (460 -- 370 BC) regarding the origin of nature and all that exists is not different from the view of Leukippos. He developed Leukippos' views by expressing the opinion that the universe consists of atoms and empty space. The atoms are free to move and can change their position. Atoms are eternal, cannot be seen, and cannot be divided. Atoms differ from each other in size, position, arrangement, weight and speed.

Objects that appear are actually collections of atoms and stable objects consist of atoms that are interconnected. Changes in the shape of objects are caused by the movement, collision, and rebinding of these atoms. It may also be noted that Democritus also argued that the senses and thoughts are the impact of the movement of atoms. An object is visible to the eye because its atoms which are always moving touch the atoms of our senses.

## **Empedocles**

Empedocles, who lived around 490-430 –BC, believed that the universe consisted of four main elements, namely air, fire, water and earth. Each of these elements has different properties. Air is cold, fire is hot, water is wet, and earth is dry. An object can occur due to a mixture of these elements.

Empedocles' attitude to life was influenced by Pythagoras. He believes that besides the four elements, there are also two influential forces, namely love and hatred. Something is formed from the four main elements under the influence of the power of love and can be destroyed by separation between these elements under the power of hatred. After studying his views and arguments. So at this point you have understood the things done by philosophers and the views they put forward. They have both raised a question and they have done some thinking or reflection to answer the question they have raised in a basic way. They do this activity simply because they like to think hard, fundamentally and critically to obtain the meaning or essence of something, thereby carrying out a dialogue with themselves. By thinking they use reason to explain things they did not know before. This then produces knowledge for them and will lead them towards wisdom.

If we look at the activities carried out by several Greek thinkers, they can be classified as philosophers or philosophers. For them, philosophy is a science used to understand the nature of everything in nature or the nature of existing reality by using their reason and conscience. Therefore, they can also be said to be experts in Alamo philosophy.

There are three people who are considered the three great philosophers of their time, namely : *Socrates, Plato and Aristotle*.

### **Socrates**

Socrates, who lived between 469 –and 399 BC, was a Greek philosopher. He really pays attention to humans and wants humans to be able to recognize themselves. According to him, the human soul is the deepest principle of life. So, the soul is the essence of humans which has the meaning of determining human life. Based on his view, he has no intention of forcing other people to accept certain teachings or views. Instead, he prioritizes allowing other people to express their own views.

For this reason, he uses the dialectical method, namely by conducting dialogue with other people so that other people can express or explain their views or ideas. In this way, new views or alternatives can emerge. Socrates did not leave any writings about his views, but Socrates' views were expressed by Plato, one of his students.

### **Plato**

Plato (427 – 347 BC) expressed his view that the fundamental reality is ideas or ideas. He believes that the nature that we see or the empirical nature that is experiencing change is not actual reality. The world of sight or the world of perception, namely the concrete world, is only a shadow of ideas that are eternal and immaterial. Plato stated that there is a world of sensory capture or the real world, and a world of ideas.

To enter the world of ideas, great mental energy is required and for this, humans must abandon their habits of life, control their desires and always do good deeds. Plato also stated that the human soul consists of three levels, namely the highest part is reason, the middle part is filled with feelings or desires, and the lower part is occupied by passion. It is reason that can be used to see ideas and bring order to the souls in the middle and lower levels .

Plato left more than 30 writings in literary form that contain beauty and purity. His early writings expressed Socrates' views, while his later writings expressed his own views. Plato founded a school and one of his clever students was Aristotle, who later became known as a very influential thinker and writer.

### **Aristotle**

Aristotle (384 - 322 BC) was Plato's student for 20 years until Plato died. He enjoyed traveling to various places and was once the teacher of Prince Alexander who later became King Alexander the Great. Furthermore, he also founded a school called the Lyceum. Aristotle was a critical thinker, doing a lot of research and developing knowledge during his lifetime. He paid a lot of attention to natural sciences and medicine. It can be said that his writings cover all the sciences known at that time,

including natural sciences, society and the state, literature and art, and human life.

Aristotle's most famous writings to this day are about logic, which is called analytics. This analysis aims to propose conditions that must be fulfilled by thinking that intends to reach the truth. In this case, the core of Aristotle's logic is called syllogism, namely a way of thinking that starts from two postulates or propositions which then produces a third proposition drawn from the two original propositions. You will be able to learn about the importance of logic in the development of science in a separate discussion.

The views of these three great philosophers were then developed by philosophers in the following centuries. They develop philosophy by continuously thinking fundamentally or radically with the aim of finding the root of the problem or a reality which can ultimately clarify reality itself. Apart from that, always question the nature of various realities as an effort to discover reality, the aim of which is to know reality with certainty and clarity.

The efforts of the philosophers you have studied were aimed at uncovering the truth. Because absolute truth has never been achieved, philosophers never stop working towards new, more certain truths. Finally, everything must be accompanied by a rational way of thinking. This means that philosophers always think logically, systematically and critically. Thus, their efforts were the beginning of the development of branches of science or scientific knowledge .

## **Scope of Philosophy**

### **Logic**

Logic is a field of knowledge that studies all the principles, rules and procedures for correct reasoning. Initially logic was rational knowledge. Aristotle called logic analytics, which was later developed by Middle Ages experts called traditional logic. Starting at the end of the 19th century, by George Boole, traditional logic was developed into modern logic. Logic is also a branch of philosophy. And as a science, Logic itself is said to be a science that studies the skills to be able to think straight, precisely and orderly.

### **Aesthetics**

Aesthetics is one of the basic things that humans experience and face every day. Its nature in everyday life is very spontaneous, only in the mind, almost in unison with the subconscious, so that sometimes we don't really pay attention to it. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder and beauty is a subjective thing, there is no need to debate it anymore. In fact, aesthetics is one of the first factors that will be considered in various social life interactions .

### **Ethics**

Ethics is often referred to as moral philosophy. Ethos, which comes from Greek and means nature, character, habit, is a term that always refers to ethics. Likewise with ethikos which means morals, civility, or good behavior and actions. Meanwhile, morals come from Latin, namely mores (plural of mos), which means customs or habits, character, behavior, habits and way of life (Rapar, 1996).

The material object of ethics is human behavior or actions (Lecturer Team, 2007). Actions carried out consciously and freely. Meanwhile, the formal object is the good and bad or moral and immoral of the behavior.

### **Metaphysics**

The term metaphysics comes from the Greek word *meta ta physika*, which can be interpreted as something that is behind or behind physical objects (Lecturer Team, 2007). Metaphysics can also be interpreted as thinking about the ultimate nature of reality or existence. Metaphysical issues can be divided into three, namely ontology, cosmology (nature), and anthropology (humans).

### **CONCLUSION**

Historical studies of the scope of philosophy produce several important points. According to Jujun S. Suriasumantri: "a person who philosophizes can be likened to a person who stands on the earth and looks up at the stars in the sky. He wants to know the nature of himself in the universe. A person who stands on the top of a high mountain listens to his presence with the universe the one he was staring at."

The characteristics of philosophical thinking according to Sunoto are: descriptive, critical and analytical, evaluative or normative, speculative and systematic. So, philosophy can generally be interpreted as a science that investigates everything that exists to obtain the ultimate truth.

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