

POPPER'S PHILOSOPHY: PROMISES TO THIRD WORLD PROBLEMS

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In this paper, we try to explore the promises of Popper's philosophy to resolve third world problems particularly his political approach. Popper wrote in his *Open Society and Its Enemies* that the problems of humanity can be resolved necessarily by the abolition of the closed society and the instauration of the "open society", as the perfect society, where humanitarianism, democracy, and freedom reign as characteristics of a better world: "If we wish to remain human, then there is only one way, the way into the open society".(1)

What is the part of the third world, in the work of the theorist of the open society? How are we to reconcile Popper's exclusive interpretation of history when he said that the emergence of the open society as it was qualified by him is a western social phenomenon historically recognized as a western fact, a characteristic of the western societies, that make the step from tribalism to humanitarianism? Can third world societies hope for a better world like western societies? Is Popper's approach really interested in third world problems? Is the critic of Hegel and Marx innocent of the charge of "euro-centrism"?

As we know, the third world suffers from some problems and hopes for a better world. After the fall of the communist camp, the opportunity was offered to third world thinkers and national leaders to return to the ideal of the "open society", and to institute democratic government and democratic institutions elaborated and controlled by free citizens .

The third world presents the typical problems discussed by Popper in his *Open Society and Its Enemies*: tribalism, totalitarianism, racism, intolerance; violence, poverty, and unemployment; sickness and pain, social insecurity and war. In the context of globalization, can the third world find some solutions to all these evils?

Can third world people, traumatized by colonialist policies and underdevelopment, aspire to keep their national feelings and to adhere at the same time to the "open society" principles, defending their political and economic interests and their cultural legacy?

Karl Popper, *The Open Society and Its Enemies*, Volume I, London Routledge and Kegan Paul, fifth edition, 1966, p. 201.