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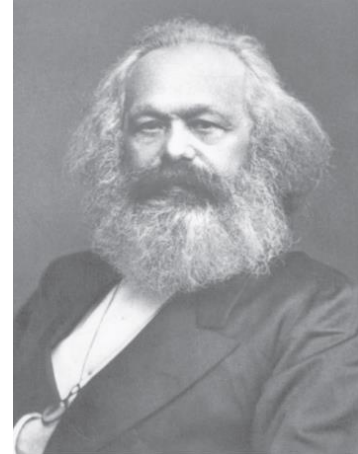
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INFLUENCE OF KARL MARX'S POLITICAL THOUGHT IN 20TH CENTURY

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The task of this paper discusses the role of Marx in 20th Century and culture today. An analysis of contemporary political economy Studies works that with the new global crisis of capitalism, a new interest in Karl Marx's works has emerged. Karl Marx—German philosopher, economist, and revolutionary—believed a just world could be achieved only through the evolution of humanity from a capitalist to a socialist economy and society. The new world economic crisis that started is the most obvious reason for the return of the interest in Marx. The paper argues that Marx's Both a scholar and a political activist, Marx addressed a wide range of political as well as social issues, and is known for, among other things, his analysis of history. The interpretations of his theories, particularly those on political economy, have in the course of history generated decades of debate, inspired revolutions and cast him as both devil and deity in political and academic circles.

Keywords: Karl Marx, Marxist theory, Global Economy

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1. No name in the history of social ideas occupies a place more remarkable than that of Karl Marx (1818–1883). The nineteenth-century philosopher’s ideas may help us to understand the economic and political inequality of our time. On or about February 24, 1848, a twenty-three-page pamphlet was published in London. Modern industry, it proclaimed, had revolutionized the world. It surpassed, in its accomplishments, all the great civilizations of the past—the Egyptian pyramids, the Roman aqueducts, the Gothic cathedrals. Its innovations—the railroad, the steamship, the telegraph—had unleashed fantastic productive forces. In the name of free trade, it had knocked down national boundaries, lowered prices, made the planet interdependent and cosmopolitan. Goods and ideas now circulated everywhere. Marxism is not as alive today as it was during the two preceding centuries. But even now ideas of Karl Marx continue to engage intellect, imagination and conscience of human minds across the world from perspectives that are understandably very diverse.
2. Karl Marx is probably the most influential socialist thinker to emerge in the nineteenth century and one of the founders of communism. Although dictatorships throughout the twentieth century have distorted his original ideas, his work as a philosopher, social scientist, historian and a revolutionary is respected by academics today. Marxism as the attempt to gain historical understanding through the application of scientific methods later developed into Marxism as a body of scientific truths, gaining a status more akin to that of a religion. The New Left comprises thinkers and intellectual movements that emerged in the 1960s and early 1970s, seeking to revitalize socialist thought by developing a radical critique of advanced industrial society. The New Left rejected both ‘old’ left alternatives: Soviet-style state socialism and deradicalized western social democracy. Influenced by the humanist writings of the ‘young’ Marx, and by anarchism and radical forms of phenomenology and existentialism, New Left theories are often diffuse. Karl Marx was also a utopian thinker, but in a different way from Plato or Bacon. Marx’s predecessors began with elaborate descriptions of their paradises; and when they engaged in social criticism, it was usually implicit. Marx, by contrast, began with an explicit criticism of existing society and sketched only the broadest outlines of his utopia. In fact, there would be just two types of people in the world: the people who owned property and the people who sold their labour to them. As ideologies disappeared which had once made inequality appear natural and ordained, it was inevitable that workers everywhere would see the system for what it was, and would rise up and overthrow it. The writer who made this prediction was, of course, Karl Marx, and the pamphlet was “The Communist Manifesto.” The harsh working conditions and widespread suffering associated with capitalism in the mid-nineteenth century provoked Marx’s attack on economic inequality. The wealthy commercial and industrial elites—the bourgeois capitalist class—opposed reforms aimed at improving the living conditions of the impoverished working class—the proletariat. In Marxist political theory, the ideal society in which wealth is equally distributed according to the Principle “from each according to his ability, to each according to his needs.” Marx believed economics, or the production and distribution of material necessities, was the ultimate determinant of human life and that human societies rose and fell according to the inexorable interplay of economic forces. But the internal progressive logic of capitalism made it equally inevitable, according to Marx, that the superstructures of power built on greed and exploitation would collapse in a great social upheaval led by the impoverished and alienated proletariat.
3. Marx referred to the first stage in the revolution that would overthrow capitalism as the **dictatorship of the proletariat**. During this time, the guiding principle would be, “From each

according to his abilities, to each according to his needs.” Private ownership of property would be abolished. Marx German philosopher and his best-known titles are *The Communist Manifesto* and *Das Kapital*. His political and philosophical thought had enormous influence on subsequent intellectual, economic and political history. His work in economics laid the basis for much of the current understanding of labour and its relation to capital, and subsequent economic thought. Much of the world has been influenced by Marx's work, with many modifying or adapting his ideas. Marx is typically cited as one of the principal architects of modern social science.

4. The 1972 Nobel literature laureate, German writer Heinrich Boll, once said, without the workers' movement, without the socialists, without their thinker Karl Marx, more than five-sixths of those living today would still be living in a dull state of half-slavery. Marx made a basic distinction between social form and material content ... In the early 19th century what was changed was agriculture, in the late 19th century industrialization. Now it is digitalization. All these have changed on the side of the material contents, but the social form, to be a commodity, always remains the same. Today's world is faced with multiple challenges, ranging from wars and conflicts, poverty, climate change to extremism and terrorism. Countries across the globe have been seeking solutions to these challenges, at the same time, enriching Marxism thought through experience and characteristics of Marxism." one of the fundamental questions that need to be answered in the modern study of Marxism is how to address the social imbalance in development and how to turn people's longing for a better life into reality. If Marxism in the 21st century can achieve this, it will surely be revived with enormous vitality. Marxism is a scientific theory that reveals the rule of human society development in a creative manner. Having developed the materialist conception of history and surplus value theory, Marx showed how humanity would leap from the realm of necessity to the realm of freedom and the road for the people to realize freedom and liberation and the unrelenting fight to overturn the old world and establish a new one.

5. An influential person till today, whose thinking matches the modern day thinking. Every theory about labour and capital he put up, has built a solid foundation for the future economic theories. Modern social science is thanks to Karl Max. A leader in revolutionary thinking in economic terms, with such definitions of Labour theory of value gaining a lot of attraction from the world. The theory suggests that if goods and services tend to be sold at their true objective labour values as measured in labour hours, how do capitalists enjoy profit? It is by means of underpaying or making the worker work overtime to gain benefits from it. Therefore exploitation of labour to drive down the cost of production was witnessed. *Das Capital* another book written by Marx was a life changing book about capitalism. The theories of commodities, labour markets, the division of labour and the understanding of return to owners of capital. The current discussion of the theme of globalisation suffers from an indeterminate characterisation of the process and that there is a need for a determinate historical and theoretical specification of the global system. Such a specification must be able to account for the particular intensity of modern globalisation as compared with the more general interaction across space that has characterised much of world history. The work of Marx and Marxism provide an indispensable point of departure for the study of globalisation and modern global economy also. Marx's thoughts on economic globalization are contained in his philosophical views, his ideas on historical materialism and his theory of world history. His philosophical transformation broke with the idealist ontology of old philosophy and made philosophical studies connect with reality. Marx's thoughts on economic globalization mainly reveal the nature and trends of economic globalization; he emphasizes that economic globalization is a result of the global expansion of capitalism.

Conclusion

It is remarkable for an economic thinker and political activist that 200 years after their birth, millions are still avidly discussing their work. Yet Karl Marx's Capital continues to influence every new generation. Marx's economic writings are at the centre of debate once again. And one of the figures most associated with these discussions. In an era of anti-globalisation protests and the movement against the 1%, Marx's analysis continues to be relevant – he explains how the capitalist system goes hand in hand with aggressive competition and innovation, and why this leads to poverty, crisis and eventually revolution. He brilliantly describes growing wealth, the worsening conditions of labour and the necessity for a different society. These insights apply as much to the 21st century as the 19th. We see the same capitalist landscape of old incumbents constantly under pressure from new challengers – and also the same destructiveness. Marx therefore helps us make sense of modern power relations after all. Then, as now, there is no contradiction between capitalism and crisis: it is a process of historical development and economic transition within the system.

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