



Modernity and consilience between the sacred and the profane

Modernity and the encompassment of the sacred and the secular

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Concept and definition of modernity

Modernity is a concept that has been revered as a symbol of civilization throughout the East and West, as a characteristic that has enabled humanity to escape from the shackles of darkness and regain the power of reason.

Modernity can be defined as a mode of life that uses science and technology as the basis for understanding the world and combines it with capital and the state to objectify and manage nature and humans efficiently.

Modernity was a universal value discovered by mankind through trial and error over a long period of human history, and Thus “modernity” became what the world commonly aspired to pursue.

Classification of modernization, modernity, and modernism

modernization

Refers to a series of technological, economic, and political developments related to the Industrial Revolution and its effects, such as industrial revolution, urbanization, expansion of the market economy, and formation of nation-states.

modernity

Social conditions and ways of experiencing As a result of modernization

Example: emphasis on reason and rationality, individualism, secularization, weakening of tradition and authority

modernism

Postmodern theory and criticism

The Theory of postmodernism is a critical Theory of modernity that begins with the recognition that humanity faces an unprecedented crisis of extinction As a result of unbridled desires.

Major criticisms of postmodernists and alternative proposals

- Criticism of the reductionist nature of Cartesian rationality Interrelational rationality that accepts others
- The problem of heterocentrism and modernity as the same. Generative, processual, and deconstructive ways of thinking.
- A modern way of thinking that excludes others, acknowledging the relativity and pluralism of truth
- Skepticism about absolute truth and universality Micro power relations and discourse analysis

major thinkers

Nietzsche (1844-1900) Foucault (1926-1984) Derrida (1930-2004)

Weber and rationality-centered modernity

Max Weber condensed and explained the core of modernity as 'the rationalization of the entire society.'

The three elements of modernity defined by Weber:

- Rational Capitalism
- Rational Legal-Administrative System
- Rational Social Differentiation

Rationality presented in Weber's Essay on the Sociology of Religion has become a core Concept of modernity. Criticism of postmodernists' rationality:

- Pointing out the Limitations of Cartesian rationalism
- It is argued that the rationality of modernity forms a world view
- centered on the same, excluding others, and that the bias of rationality

is the cause of the modern crisis

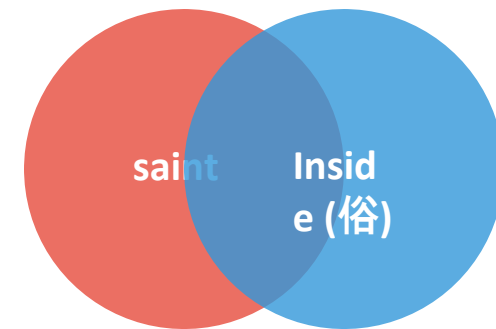
Consilience theory: relationships between sex and nature

Consilience is a religious sociological model of modernity in which the center includes but controls the outside rather than excluding it.

Consilience 1: Consilience of the sacred with the profane - After the Axial Age

Consilience 2: Consilience of the profane with the sacred - the Meaning of modernity

The relationship of consilience, which is the strengthening of the divine Yes. through the rearrangement of the sacred and the profane, is a universal phenomenon of humanity. The theory of consilience is useful in understanding various aspects of Eastern and Western modernity by explaining the rationalization behind religiousization.



Consilience 1: The sacred includes and controls the profane.
 Consilience 2: The profane includes and controls the sacred.
 Modernity is a transition from consilience 1 to consilience 2

multiple modernities theory

multiple modernities is a theory that understands modernity as a phenomenon that occurs in various civilizations and cultures rather than a phenomenon unique to the West.

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- First appeared in the academic journal 『Daedalus』 "early modernities" special issue in 1998
- Representative scholars: S. N. Eisenstadt, B. Wittroc, J. P. Arnason A critical alternative to the Western-centric Concept of modernity

The core argument of multiple modernities

Modernity today must be understood as global modernity, which is multilayered modernity resulting from the mutual exchange of multiple civilizations.

- Proto modernity - before Western modernity
- Colonizing-colonized modernity - Global modernity after Western
- modernity - Current middle-class modernity

7 alternative modernity theory

alternative modernity theory starts from a critical perspective on Western modernity and seeks alternative forms of modernity that emerge in various cultural and historical contexts.

Cultural theoretical approach Understanding modernity in various cultural contexts breaking away from Western-centrism	anthropological perspective Exploring the autogenous modernization process of non-Western societies and the unique ways in which modernity is manifested
Literary-political criticism Study of alternative expressions of modernity in various artistic and political contexts	Globalization and regionalism Presenting a new form of modernity that combines regional specificity amidst globalization

Cat ego ry foc us	Theory of multiple modernities	alternative modernity theory
	Analysis of various types of modernity expressed in the West and other civilizations	Search for alternatives to Western modernity and possibility of practical change
Principal Investigator	Eisenstadt, Wittrock, Arnason	Appadurai, Gilroy, Ong

autogenous modernity and Donghak ideology

Autogeneous Modernity is a Concept of discovering and developing modernity within our traditions, rather than accepting Western modernity.

Characteristics of autogenous modernity

- Compact coexistence of Western and Eastern modernity
- Includes both modernity and post-modernity
- based on the inherent nature of Eastern traditional thought

Donghak Thought is a representative example of autogenous modernity that emerged amid social changes in Joseon, and is based on the Eastern correlational thought that “the Principle of the universe is contained in the body, so the will of the people is the will of heaven.”

Comparison of Donghak Thought and Western modernity

Classification	Western modernity	Donghak's autogenous modernity
Subject	Individual's Reason	People's Experience
Methodology	based on enlightenment, reason and inherent spirituality	
Goal	Personal freedom, national security, and people's safety	
Methodology	Rational science	Consilience in nature and within

9 Daesoon Thought and Modernity

Daesoon Thought already predicted the crisis inherent in modernity more than 120 years ago and presented an alternative modernity through the fusion of Eastern and Western ideas.

Understanding the modernity of Daesoon Thought

When Western modernity became the epicenter of the modern crisis, the modernity Concept of Haewon-Sangsaeng (解冤相生) presented by Daesoon Thought attracted attention as a new solution to redefining modernity.

Reasons that were not understood at the time Context for modern reexamination

- Overshadowed by the modernity decorated with Western material civilization
- Spreading awareness of the Limits of Western modernity
- Difficult to understand the depth of Daesoon Thought, which synthesized Eastern and Western ideas
- Shifting interest from new science to Oriental studies
- Dominant position in Western-centered modernization discourse
- Increasing need for an integrated worldview

Searching for alternatives to redefine modernity

“The Concept of modernity of Haewon-Sangsaeng, a fusion of East and West presented by Daesoon Thought, is attracting attention as a new solution to the problem of redefining the Concept of modernity.”

Modern crisis and re-examination of modernity

The crisis in modern society created by modernity has reached a level that threatens the survival of all mankind.

Paradoxical consequences of modernity:

- Environmental crisis
- and ecosystem
- destruction, human
- alienation and community collapse

Advances in science and

Reflective Modernity

(Ulrich Beck)

technology and increasing
Modernity itself reflects on itself and recognizes risks,
uncertainty. Coexistence of
suggesting a new direction to respond to a risk society.

material abundance and mental

emptiness

liquid modernity (Sigmund

Baumann)

Diagnosis of modern society in which the fixed and solid
modernity has changed into a fluid and unstable 'liquid'
state.

11 Conclusion: Convergence and consilience of East and West

A new paradigm for human coexistence through the consilience of autogenous modernity and Western modernity

Eastern modernity

- ◆ Inherent modernity contained in Donghak Thought and Daesoon Thought Human understanding through harmony between the sacred

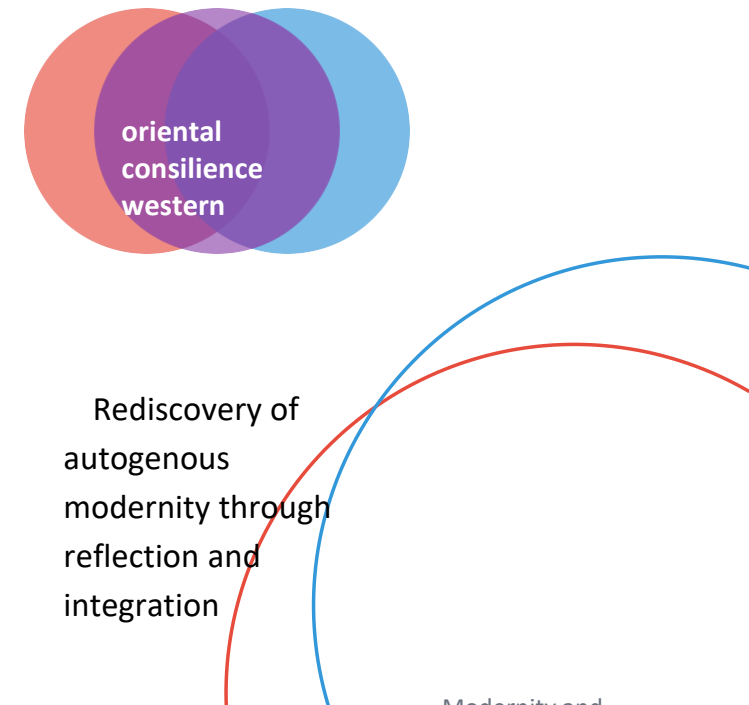
and the profane

- ◆ Correlative thought that the principles of the universe are contained in the body
- ◆ through scientific rationality and reason-centered worldview

Western rational modernity

New modernity through consilience

- ◆ Presenting a direction for human coexistence
- ◆ through the Principle of alternative modernity and mutual coexistence through crossing the
- ◆ The direction of future society through an integrated understanding of Eastern and Western ideas



12 References and Implications

Key

References

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Implications

of the Study

- **autogenous modernity - Understanding the unique modernity of Korea and East Asia**
- **Consilience model - presenting an alternative theory that complements the Limitations of the Western rationality model**
- **Donghak and Daesoon Thought - Laying a unique ideological foundation in the formation of Korean modernity**
- **Reexamining relationships in performance - Presenting a new perspective to overcome crises in modern society**

Direction of

development of
Korean studies
of consilience
research

By reinterpreting Korean history and ideology from the perspective of consilience in achievement, we can find new solutions to the problems facing modern Korean society and create universal values in the global era through an integrated understanding of Eastern and Western ideas.