A Study on the Cyclic Economic View of Daesoon Thought

A presentation exploring modern economic problems, the interaction of religion, ethics, and economy, and cyclic solutions, centered on the cyclic economic view of Daesoon Thought.

Presenter: [Name]

Date: [Date]

Venue: [Venue]

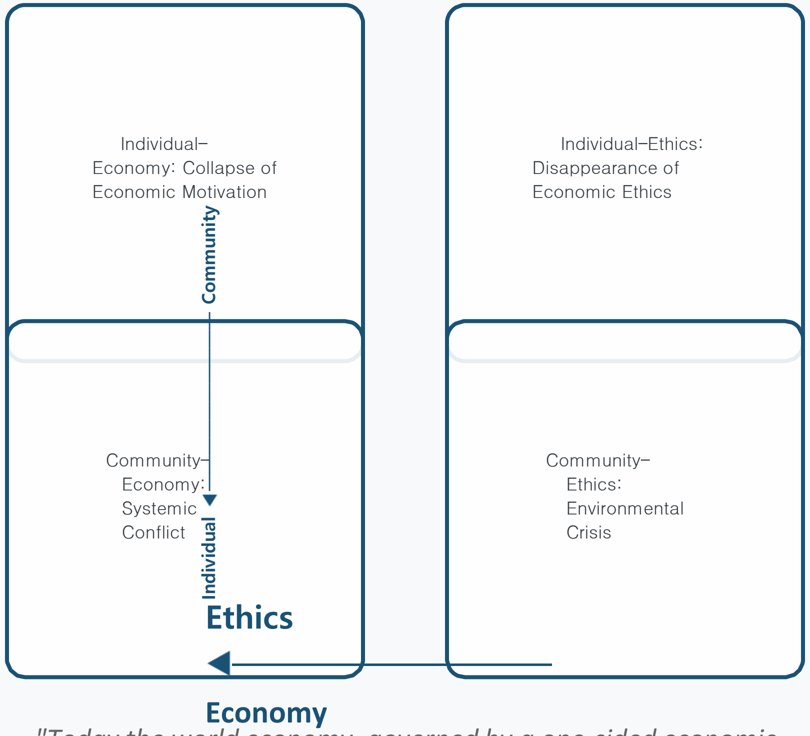
Research Background and Problem Statement

- The Myth of Sisyphus and the Eternal Suffering of Modern People: The Paralysis of Economic Circulation
- The Ethical and Spiritual Crisis Amid Rapid Material Development
- Distrust in the Virtuous Cycle of Economy, Ethics, and Religion
- Modern Society Trapped in Linear Rationalization (the Iron Cage)

"Even amid an extremely developed material civilization, the spiritual suffering of modern people, who know no satisfaction, lies in the fact that their economic philosophy—originating from the Three Teachings and Western Religion—is confined within the frameworks of libertarianism, communitarianism, social contractarianism, and utilitarianism, which cannot solve problems by themselves, and cannot escape those frameworks through the method of circulation."

The Need for the Study: The Paralysis of Circulation and Economic Crisis

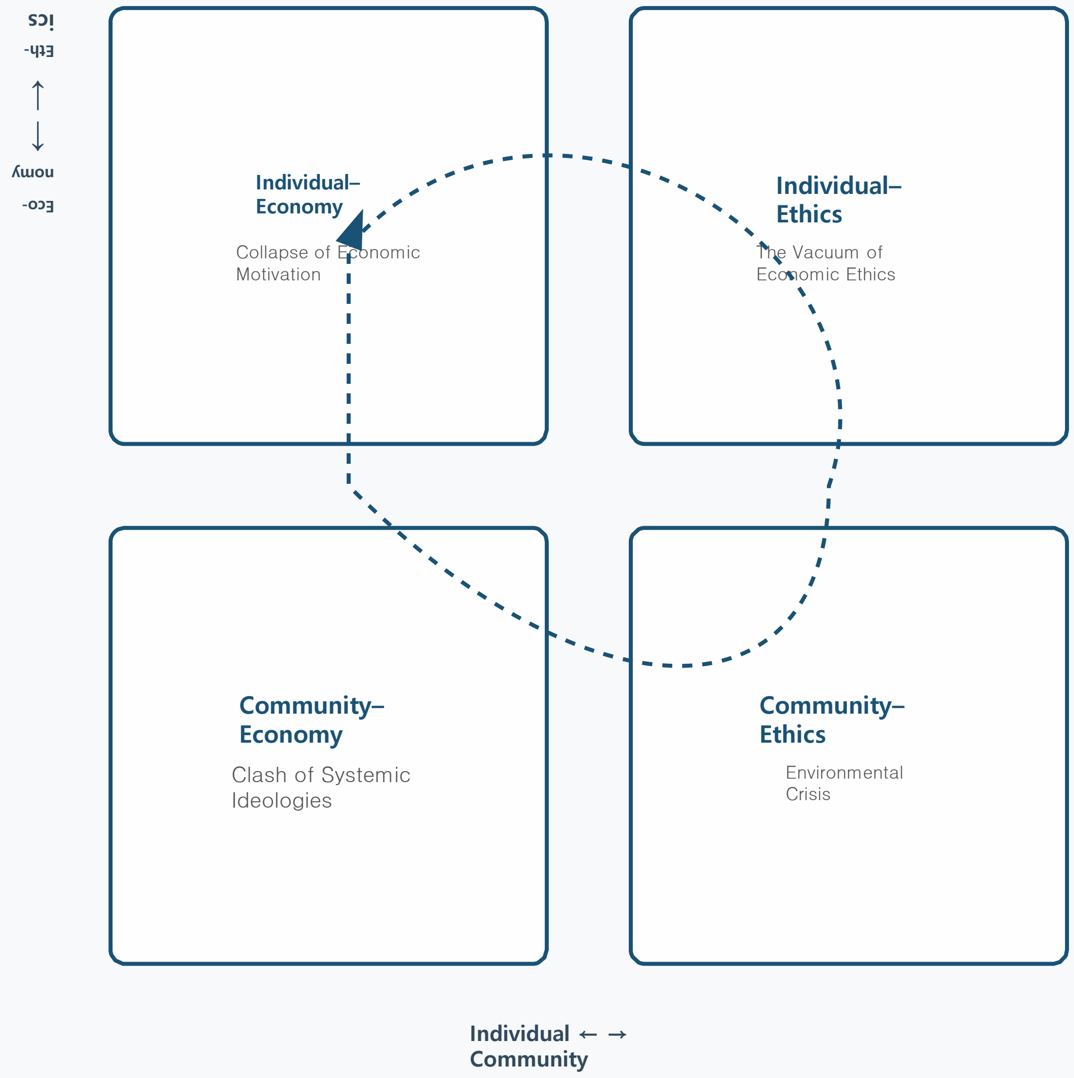
- The Core of the Modern Economic Crisis: The Paralysis of Circulation
- Four Phenomena of Cyclic Paralysis:
  - 1. Individual–Economy: The Collapse of Economic Motivation
  - 2. Individual–Ethics: The Disappearance of Economic Ethics
  - 3. Community–Economy: The Conflict Between Capitalist and Communist Systems
  - 4. Community–Ethics: The Environmental Crisis
- Restoring the Circulation of Religion and Ethics as the Solution to Economic and Social Crises
- An Integrative Solution Uniting Eastern and Western Thought



"Today the world economy, governed by a one-sided economic logic of only taking and never giving, has come to face a crisis of circulation."

The Structure of Modern Economic Problems

- The Four Axes of Economic Problems:
  - 1. Individual–Economy: Collapse of Economic Motivation
  - 2. Individual–Ethics: The Vacuum of Economic Ethics
  - 3. Community–Economy: Clash of Systemic Ideologies
  - 4. Community–Ethics: Environmental Crisis
- The problems are interlocked, forming a circulatory structure.



The Core Economic Concepts of Daesoon Thought

> "Money is a thing created and used through the principle of circulation."

- Emphasizing the mutual circulation of economy and ethics, and of the individual and the community.
- Integrating the strengths of the Three Teachings and Western Religion — pluralistic circularity.
- Pursuing economic balance through cyclic redistribution and circulation.
- The tradition of an economic view that prioritizes the Mandate of Heaven (天命) and ethics.
- 'Virtue (德) is the root, wealth (財) is the branch' — ethics must come first for the circulatory regeneration of the economy to be possible.

The Pluralistic Circularity of Daesoon Thought: an economic view in which religion, economy, community, and ethics mutually circulate and achieve harmony.

The Eastern Origins of Western Economic Thought

- "Imadu (Matteo Ricci) led the civilizational deities of the East and opened the flourishing of culture in the West."

- The theory of the Chinese origins of Western modern civilization (Zhu Qianzhi, Frank, Gavin Menzies, etc.)

- Weber's view of 'economic thought = religious thought' and the circulation of Eastern and Western thought.

- The importance of cyclic exchange as a clue to overcoming the crisis of world cultural identity.

> *"The West was able to decisively develop the capitalist system because it discovered China, then the wealthiest country."*

Matteo Ricci (Imadu) was a Jesuit missionary who arrived in China in the late 16th century and served as an important medium through which Chinese economic thought and culture were transmitted to the West. Through his activities, Eastern economic thought spread to the West, which later exerted a significant influence on the development of Western modern capitalism.

Review of Prior Research

- Three Major Research Axes by Type:
  1. Research on the Eastern Origins of Western Economic Thought
     - "Imadu (Matteo Ricci) led the civilizational deities of the East and opened the flourishing of culture in the West."
     - The theory of Chinese origins (Zhu Qianzhi, Frank, Menzies, etc.)
- 2. Research on the Cyclic Economic Theory and Money of Daesoon Thought
     - "Money is a thing created and used through the principle of circulation."
     - Weber, Simmel, Baudrillard, Bourdieu, etc.
- 3. Research on Gift Theory, Complexity Economics, and East-West Cyclic Economy
     - Han Tae-dong's logic of religion; Lee Gi-dong's comparison of Korea, China, and Japan.
     - The historical economic circulation of Mauss, Polanyi, Braudel, etc.

Comparison of Economic-Ethics Methodologies by Religion

Category	Individual–Economy	Individual–Ethics	Community–Economy	Community–Ethics
Economic Ethics	Libertarianism	Social Contractarianism	Utilitarianism	Communitarianism
Methodology	Positivism	Phenomenology	Structuralism	Relationalism
Key Scholars	Weber	Simmel	Baudrillard, Bourdieu	MacIntyre, Sandel
Religious Association	Western Religion (Calvinism)	Confucianism	Buddhism	Taoism

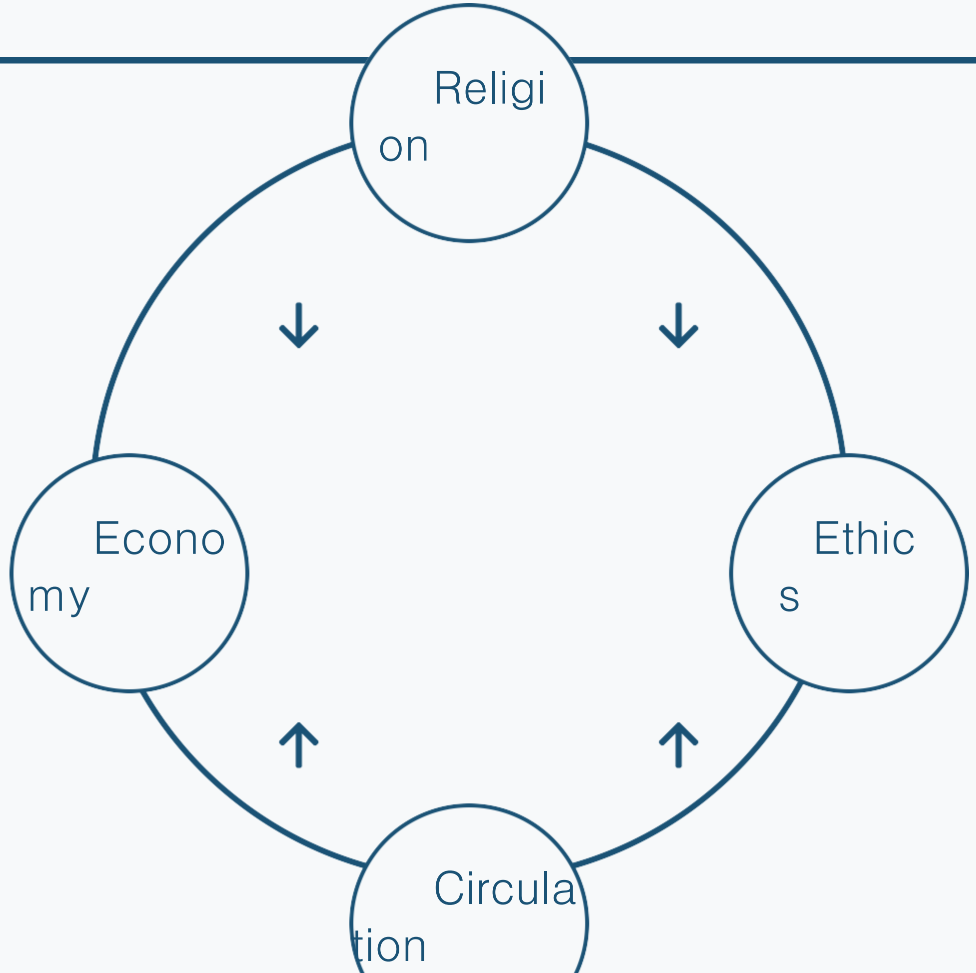
The Solution of the Cyclic Economic View

- An Integrative Solution to the Economic and Ethical Crisis
  - Overcoming the limits of linear rationalization (the iron cage) through cyclic thinking.
  - Restoring the harmonized circulatory relationship of religion, ethics, and economy.
- Natural–Scientific Grounds
  - Einstein's cyclic worldview — like the principle of the theory of relativity.
  - Complexity theory — the pluralistic circularity in which the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.
- Concrete Effects
  - Recovery of economic motivation and restoration of ethics.
  - Restoration of balance between individual and community, and between economy and ethics.
  - Fundamental resolution of the environmental crisis and the clash of systemic ideologies.

"Circulation is a postmodern method of solving the various problems of economy and ethics. Just as Einstein solved difficult problems by relativizing Newtonian physics through the circle, circulation is a higher-dimensional movement that reconciles mutually opposing linear movements."

Conclusion and Implications

- Daesoon Thought calls for an economic view in which economy, ethics, and religion are cyclically harmonized.
- The need for pluralistic, cyclic thinking to overcome modern economic problems.
- Presenting the possibility of an integrative application of Eastern and Western thought.
- Proposing the restoration of economic circulation through the harmony of ethics and economy.
- The need for further research and reflection in actual economic policy.



"Money is a thing created and used through the principle of circulation" ~ the cyclic economic view of Daesoon Thought

is grounded in the harmonious circulation of religion, economy, and ethics.