

Capitalism The New Religion of Humanity

Mr. V.T.Kanthavel
J.H.A.AgarsenCollege
Cell: 9445626526
Email: vtkanthavel@gmail.com

Abstract

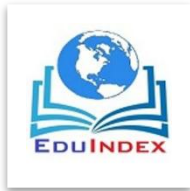
Capitalism is based on the re-investment of excess profit in the business for development of business, individual and economy. Capitalism can be compared with religion and they have a lot of similarities among them. Both capitalism and religion aim at the welfare of the people and throughout time there have been a lot of changes in both of them. Capitalism can be considered as one of the modern religion of the modern people. Some people may consider very uncomfortable with the thought of considering Capitalism as a religion rather than an ideology. If you are better thinking capitalism as ideology you are free to do it, but it doesn't make any change. We can divide creeds into god-centered religions and godless ideologies.

Keyword: Capitalism, Ideology, Communism, Liberalism.

Introduction

According to the human history the last 300 years are often depicted as an age of growing secularism, in which religions have increasingly lost their importance. If we are talking about theist religions, this is largely correct. But if we take into consideration natural-law religion, then modernity turns out to be an age of intense religious fervor. The modern age has witnessed the rise of a number of new natural-law religions, such as liberalism, communism, capitalism etc. Capitalism is one the most important among them. If religion is a system of human norms and values that is founded of belief in an order then capitalism is no lesser that other religions

Some people may consider very uncomfortable with the thought of considering Capitalism as a religion rather than an ideology. If you are better thinking capitalism as ideology you are free



National Conference on
Recent Advances in Commerce, Management and
Computer Science (NRCACMC-2020) sponsored by
Department of Commerce, VEL TECH RangaSanku Arts College,
Avadi, Chennai-62
Held on 4th January 2020

to do it, but it doesn't make any change. We can divide creeds into god-centered religions and godless ideologies.

Buddhism shows one common similarity among both the creeds which we can consider as an example. Buddhism gives a short shrift to gods, and yet we consider it as a religion.

Buddhists believe that the law of nature was discovered by Siddhartha Gautama, capitalists believe that their laws are discovered by Adam Smith and many other economists.

Objectives of study

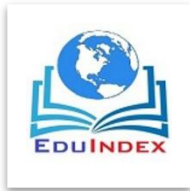
- 1) Considering capitalism as ideology rather than just an economic system
- 2) Studying the relationship between capitalism and religion in the modern era
- 3) Ascertaining that capitalism can be considered as one of the modern religions of the modern people.

Multiple creeds

The history shows signs and tracks of multiple creeds and it is impossible to show clear boundaries between the modern creeds. Just as a Buddhist could worship Hindu deities and just as a monotheist could believe in the existence of Satan. A human being can simultaneously believe in nationalism to ensure prosperity of the nation and believe in capitalism and be a liberal humanist. This is one of the major specializations of these modern religions; there are lesser limitations for the members of the creed. Mostly the members of pre-modern religions are born or forced into it but this is not the case for modern religions even if they are born in pre-modern religions they can follow the ideology-based creeds along with god-based creeds.

Credit boosts Capitalism

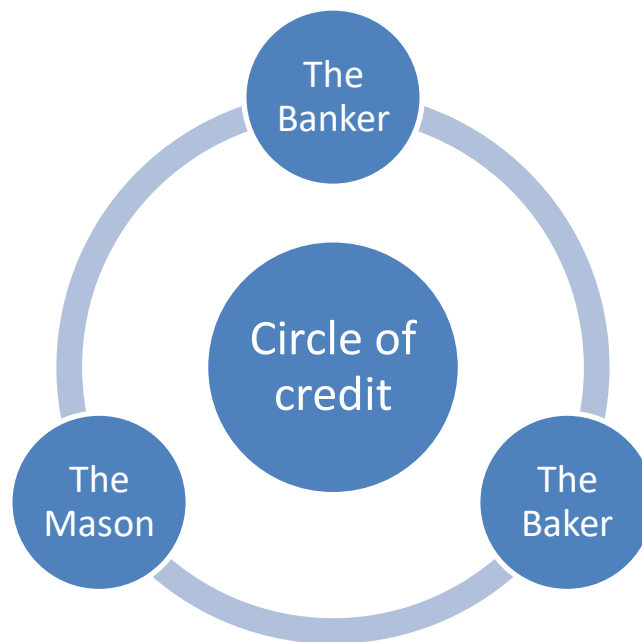
Let us take an example containing three members: The Banker, The Baker, The Mason. The banker starts a bank in city A and the mason deposits 1,00,000 with the banker. The baker sees a great demand for pastries, sweets, and bread in the city, so he decides to start a bakery.



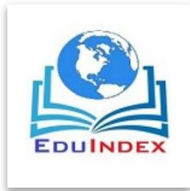
National Conference on
Recent Advances in Commerce, Management and
Computer Science (NRCACMC-2020) sponsored by
Department of Commerce, VEL TECH RangaSanku Arts College,
Avadi, Chennai-62
Held on 4th January 2020

The baker approaches the banker for a loan of 1,00,000 for starting his business. The banker deposits 1,00,000 in the bakers account. The baker hires the mason for construction of ovens and other needs for bakery. The baker transfers the masons pay 1,00,000 to his bank account.

Here comes the important question now the mason has 2,00,000 in his account but the physical currency present in the bank is 1,00,000. Does this mean that a fraud is happening here or this is error. This is neither fraud nor error the government allows certain amount of credit the bank can allow for every piece of money it has. This creates the circle of credit



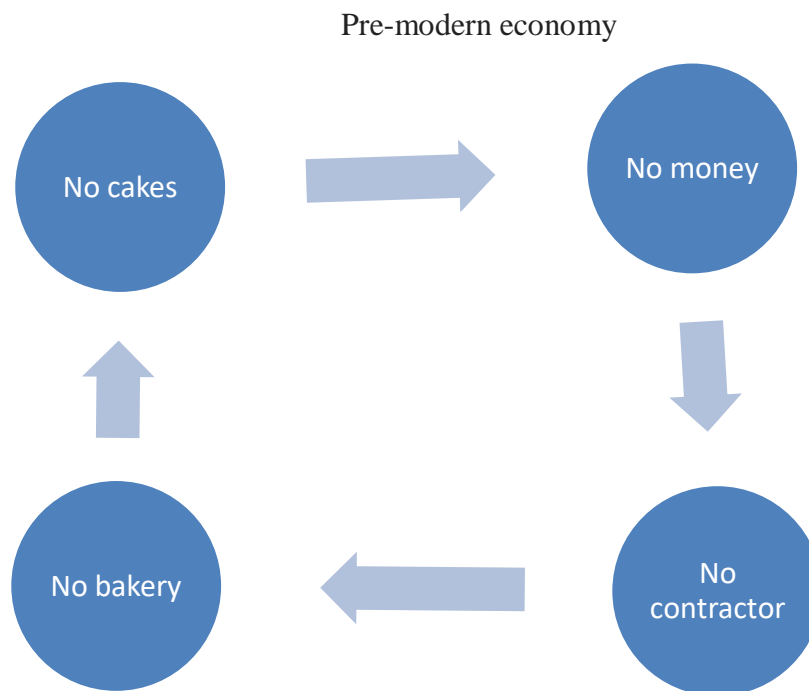
In actual world this scenario actually exists. In fact only 90% of our money exists in coins and currency. If all the account holders of the bank demand their money the banks will collapse unless the government intervenes. If this is a fraud or error then the entire modern economic system is fraud. Fortunately it is not thanks to the human's capability of imagination which

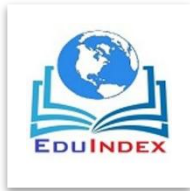


enables banks and the entire economy to survive and flourish in the trust of future. This is the sole backing for most of the money in the world. This trust in future is also the base of religions. Let's us look at the previous bakery example the amount of money present in the bank was the masons money. The banker puts the bank's money as assets assuming that he will get the money in future. The banker and the baker had invested assuming that they will get returns in future. They work basically on future trust.

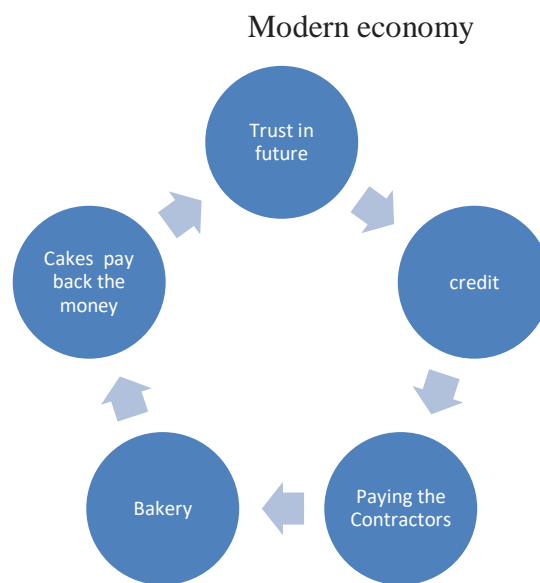
This was not possible in the pre-modern era. In the pre-modern era if the baker has to build a bakery with no tangible assets the baker has to find a contractor who finishes work today and get payment later which is a difficult process to happen thus economies froze.

The solution was discovered in the modern era, new system based on the trust of future in which people believe on an imaginative good called the credit. The credit played a major role in freeing the economy thus gave rise to the basis of capitalism.





Credit was limited. People had trouble financing new business. Since there were lesser people to finance the economy didn't grow. The frozen economy made people think that it will not grow so they were not into financing new business. The capital was minimized and the economy chart was at its minimum.

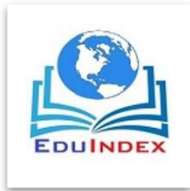


The invention of credit opened up new financing opportunities. This made the economy grow which in turn brought more people to finance business. The capitals of business grew thus growth in global pie.

Thus credit lead to growth of economy which lead to the growth capitalism which is one of the important factor that helped in growth of humanity.

What is a Capital?

What is defined as capital? Are all the money in the hand is considered as capital? The answer is no. Capital is any amount of profit that is reinvested into the business for development of business and economy. Any money which is buried or used for unproductive activity is not capital, it's just wealth. Wealth is useful for rich people and not useful for others and the



Think India Journal

ISSN: 0971-1260 Vol-22, Special Issue-21

National Conference on

Recent Advances in Commerce, Management and Computer Science (NRCACMC-2020)

sponsored by
Department of Commerce, VEL TECH RangaSanku Arts College,
Avadi, Chennai-62

Held on 4th January 2020



economy on the other hand capital helps in improvement of economy as well as other people's life.

For example when a business man decides to reinvests his profit in the company he develops the company by employing an additional employee thus making an improvement in the lifestyle of the employee and the overall economy. Capitalism distinguishes capital from mere wealth thus it is called capitalism.

Conclusion

Why capitalism is called the new religion of humanity? Unlike pre modern capitalism the modern era brought a lot of changes in both capitalism and religion which created a lot of similarities between capitalism and religion. Both religion and capitalism works on the trust on the future. In spite of many negative influences on people, both religion and capitalism aims mainly on the social welfare of the people. The most important reason is, in the modern era people irrespective of their religion follow capitalism when and where required thus capitalism can be called as the new religion of humanity.