

## Critical Analysis of Aristotle's Epistemology of Aesthetics:

By

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### Abstract:

*The aim of study is to describe Epistemology of Aesthetics in Aristotle theory. Aristotle theory of Aesthetics and Art was designed at imitating or the concept of Mimeses. His approach is totally opposite to Plato's theory of Imitations. Plato has completely rejected the Epistemology of Aesthetics. Plato believes that Art is the Imitations of objects; it is not based on reality. On the other hand, Aristotle believes that, the imitations of objects are not only providing knowledge relatively it is more useful for comprehending knowledge. We not only learn from imitations, but Imitations is the most important aspect of developing virtue.*

**Keywords:** Aristotle, Aesthetics, Imitations, Epistemology, Justification, True Beliefs.

### Introduction:

Aristotle (384-322) was a prominent Greek philosopher of Classical period in Ancient Greece. He was a proud as scientist and known as the supreme intellectual figure in the History of the West. He was also a counselor of Alexander the Great. Aristotle with Plato was one of the enormous symbols of ancient Greek philosophy. Many of the philosophical disputes engage, in todays were disused by Aristotle. and the views that was existing all those years ago are still shared at present in the current debate. Aristotle sprinkled under Plato's academy and he used to communicate there. He has also instigated his own seminary of philosophy called "Lyceum" (Prichard, D, 2006, p66). Aristotle Rational range was so vast, that he was mastering's all the sciences and many areas of Arts, which includes the biological sciences, like Biology, Botany, Chemistry, Ethics, Philosophy of Sciences, Physics, Poetics, Political theory, Psychology, and Zoology.

Aesthetics

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In the dictionary of philosophy, The Aesthetics has been defined as ‘The branch of philosophy, which is concerned with the creation, experiences and the value of Art. Aesthetics is also called the philosophy of Art, which analysis are the problems relating to that. The principal topics are the appreciations of Art, the central problems what makes something a work of Art Formalism, which exhibit the certain formal geometrical properties. And the Expressionism, which expresses certain emotions and attitudes (Lacey et al., 1976, P3). Aesthetics is continuously concerned with the role of pleasures and emotions and the properties which the worker of Art embodies like sublimity, beauty, prettiness.

#### Epistemology

Epistemology is considered one of the most substantial branches of philosophy. In the Encyclopedia of Philosophy, Epistemology has been defined as, “Epistemology is better known for the theory of knowledge; it is one of the most important branches of philosophy. The main concern of Epistemology was to study the nature and the scope of knowledge. Epistemology claims the Reliability of knowledge” (Edward, 1967, pp8,9).

Epistemology is well-thought-out one of the most important field of philosophy, from the period of Greeks, Philosophers have articulated an explanation of the nature, origin, and the scope of knowledge. The philosophical expansion of formulating such an explanation is called Epistemology. All the philosophers have trying explaining Epistemology since the period of Plato. Epistemology is considered the central field of studying in contemporary philosophy. Epistemology is measured to privilege a genuine knowledge in any area of inquiry. The first Epistemological explanations can be originated in the works of Heraclitus (the dubious value of senses), and the works of Pythagoreans (the theories of direct cognition)

#### Aristotle Aesthetics

Aristotle was well-thought-out, the sum of disciplines and is best regarded as the most prominent philosopher, Source of knowledge, Instructor, and the Inventor of many disciplines. It is well-supposed-out that, Aristotle wrote more than two hundred critiques and around only thirty-one are managed to survive. He was the persuader of philosophical and scientific system, later which became the background for Christian Scholasticism and for Medieval Islamic philosophy. Aristotle work Poetic is the theory of Literature, Poetic is the response to Plato’s Condemnation of Art. Aristotle states that, “Art is identical with a state of capacity to make Involving a true course of reasoning” .( N. Alex, Ridley, A, 1995.p88 )

The Poetics is the prominent Aristotle premise on drama; it is the collection of two books. the original one is dealing with Tragedy, and the additional one is commerce with comedy. The book of Tragedy is one of the classical works of Aristotle on the Philosophy of Art. Aristotle work on Tragedy was more proposed towards Theology, according to Aristotle

there was solid purpose behind every tragedy. Aristotle Aesthetics was stranded on his worked Poetics. Poetics was originated on the collections of lectures and was composed in 347-342 BC. (Neil et al., 1995, p88). Aristotle commission was to describe The Art of poetry, in which he sections between three kinds of thought. The first one is Theory, which means knowing, the second one is Praxis, which means doings. Poises is the third one, which means the Making (Edward's, 1967, p20).

#### Aristotle on Learning through Poetry

Aristotle nature of Imitation is entirely grounded on the origin of poetry. Poetry is completely ordinary to man. Poetry is something which has sprung from two roots; the first one is directly character of imitations and the second one is based on Rhythm and Harmony. The predisposition of Imitation is elementary to all developments of learning, and according to Aristotle the acknowledgement of imitations which provides an intellectual pleasure. The imitations incite reactions entirely changed from those caused by its object. This compels that there is a material unusual to imitation, which does not belong to their object, a substance of an intellectual nature.

#### Myths and Mysticism in Aristotle's works

Despite great inspiration of Plato's "Rationalism, Aristotle believes in Myths and Poetry". Most of his judgments exited the tendency of Mysticism; Aristotle main purpose was to define the definite knowledge. Aristotle's Poetic Metaphors is also substituted for rational explanation. The main difference between Plato and Aristotle was in their prose style. Aristotle mostly focuses not on the ornaments and beauties of Style, but his focus was on the truth of words the truth which relates to the philosophy. even though his style was more exacting, Ugly, and abrupt. Aristotle's every shade of his opinions was based on clearness of conceptions. He expresses each and everything in accurate form. (W.T, Stace et al., 1982)

#### Aristotle on Art and Science and their Experiences

According to Aristotle all the knowledge is derived from Sensation and through senses Mind knows all the things. Entirely knowledge of Material particles reaches to Stimuli and transforming things in to change less Ideas. Scientifically all the psychological functions and Intellectual habits of Man are very necessary. For scientific method, something is known as the habit of mind. Aristotle is also originating of tracing the steps of transition from sensations to memory and from memory to experiences. These ideas are developed through repeated memories. Aristotle also believes that, this all process is very necessary for Art and Science.

Aristotle considers that for actions experiences is not mediocre to Art. Man of experiences succeeds more than those who have theory without experiences. All the individual knowledge is totally based on experiences, the actions productions and all the Art of universals are concerned with the

individuals. Man knows only facts through experiences; on the other hand Art and Science are based on causes. Art has been used for action and production and science has been considered to use in understanding of being and all the Natural phenomena. The Artist uses his skills for recognitions of universal facts. All the human beings are basically connected with experiences, but Aristotle strongly believes that human race lives by Art and Reasoning. All the intellectual virtues like Art science, intuitive reasoning and practical wisdom are the possessions of Mind (McKeon. R, 1947, p15, 16)

Aristotle on Imitations (Mimic Character of Art)

Aristotle considers that, Art is replicated an Imitation of life, he modules the assessment of art in his writings. Art has been defined, as the appreciation in external forms of a True idea, which is the acknowledged as love of Imitation. Art is not only Imitation or replication, but it romanticizes the nature and its comprehensiveness, its deficiencies. It pursues to clutch the universal type in the individual phenomenon. Aristotle believes that the History is insufficient, and the poetic Art is Universal in character, poetry is more Classical than History, such imitation may indicate people either as better as or worse than people frequently are. Comparable to Plato, Aristotle would also call Art in terms of Representations, Art and poetry are primarily mimic, but Aristotle Mimic character is not constructed on criticism, like Plato did. According to Aristotle Art has an imperative place in the expansion of education. in Republic. Aristotle sturdily gave the response to Plato criticism of Art. (Kirsten, H, 2012,p12)

Aristotle's Comedy in his Poetics

'Aristotle in his Poetics defines Comedy as a form of mimeses of man'. (Ridley et al, 1995, p492) *Aristotle* describes, Comedy is the Imitation of substandard cases of humanity and used in the sense of absolute dissolution. But, not involved completely in the sense of evil. comic has taken as dishonorable classes, due to its faults. but they are missing pain and disturbance. Conferring to Aristotle the Representation of Comic mask is ugly and misshapen. Basically, Comedy is not taken as tremendously as Tragedy. (Ridley et al., 1995, p.492).

Aristotle Tragedy in his Poetics: Aristotle considers the Tragedy is an Imitation of an Action, that is thoughtful, broad and a certain extent, in language embroidered with each kind of imaginative ornament (S. H. Butcher, 1895, p1). Tragedy is the Picture of a kind, or suggestive. Art is simulated, that is all right, even good. Imitation is normal to human from childhood, Imitation is how children learn, and we all learn from Imitation. Tragedy can be a farm of instruction that provides moral perception and substitute sensitive growth. Tragedy is the Mimics of certain kind of people and action. Good Tragedies must have specific sort of people and Plot. Good people practice a reversal of fortune due to some

failing of hammered. Tragedy also grows, out of our natural disposition to melody and rhythm.

The Catharses/ Purification in Tragedy the phrase has given a huge amount of interpretation, by Aristotle giving the definition of tragedy.

“Di eleou kai phobou perainous

Ten-ton toiruton pathematon katharsin”

It has been translated by butcher, through piety and fear affecting the proper purgation of these emotions (Edwards, 1967, P21).

Aristotle has unspoken not only the pleasure of tragedy but also its unfathomable psychological effects. Tragedy produces a certain type of Catharsis/ purification of the emotion and it has taken in its medical sense of a purgation of the emotion.

Aristotle Epistemic claim

“Principal of Epistemic fit” was the most important claim of Aristotle Epistemology of Aesthetics which revenue the development of Epistemic fit. It should be a suitable way to the subject matter of investigation. The result should not be based on historical privilege. The Epistemology of Aesthetics means a Critical inquiry of appropriate epistemic claim as applied to Aesthetics. “Art completes what nature cannot bring to finish, the Artist gives us knowledge. of nature’s unrealized ends”. Aristotle (Aristotle et al., 2020).

### **Conclusion:**

Aristotle understands knowledge as closely associated with the world of nature, it is to be understood as an important and distinguishing fulfillment of human nature. Which is inherent attunement of the soul to the rest of nature Aristotle severe attention to the form of our experiences which revels knowledge to depend on insight? It is an intellectual illumination that which we receive. Although Aristotle poetics does not directly presented Aesthetics, but it is based on the analyses of poetic creation. And the theory of imitation is also not the main source of Aristotle’s philosophy of beauty, but Aristotle has taken imitation as the method of artistic construction.

Aristotle defined Art as the awareness of external form of a true idea, which imitates the characteristics of human pleasure. Art is not limited to mere copying. The basic principle of Mimeses is the creation of Art and most probably the representation of nature. The most important aspect of Aristotle Aesthetics is the theory of Catharsis, which is based on the purging of emotions through pity and fear. Here it is seemed that Aristotle empressees all the aspects of Art and Aesthetics through Catharsis in the form of emotions.

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