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Plato

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In our world there are many famous philosophers that have various philosophies and doctrines influences to the idea of human how to lives well in society. The greatest one of philosophers, world know him through his remain work, is Plato who was the disciple of Socrates and master of Aristotle. His works and principles be well-know such as Republic, Theory of Forms, Academy and dialogues reflect many ideas and knowledge with virtue especially in idea of education and politics all of these remain to present. Plato is a genius person. Plato's works have inspired thinking taught and give substantial important aspect of human life.

The exact time when Plato was born is not known but many scholars believe that Plato was born in the 427 BC in Athens of Greece with aristocratic and wealthy family. His father and mother name Ariston and Perictione¹ respectively. His father is a close partner of Socrates and the disciple of Pythagoras so this is one reason why Plato had good opportunity to have high education by near and learnt many ideas from master.

¹ Wikimedia Foundation. "Perictione." *Wikipedia*. 4 Feb. 2013.
<<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perictione>>

Plato was born in the period of Peloponnesian War², the political chaos of the Greece between Athens and Sparta. It cause Plato at first have negative thinking to the politics and pay more attention to the study and explore knowledge. He was a student of Socrates and he derived many philosophies, style of thinking from his master. The master and disciple have merge and plan to recover the city but Socrates had penalty by execute. After that Plato have immigrate away and travel to Megara Egypt and learned mathematics at the Pythagorean in Italy. He came back to Athens and established the school of learning named Academy. His school taught about philosophy, mathematics, science, astronomy and political theory with the idea that education is not only about academic but accompanied with virtue, health, ethics and strong mind because he does not focus only on education but believe that the skill and knowledge of literature, art and music are the essence fundamental for study philosophy, mathematics and science; moreover, he think everybody should have to develop talent and relaxed from exertions of the day. Hence, Plato have create garden in the Academy³ for students to relaxed and exercise that can enhance their musical skill, health. The teaching method which his school offers is modern and differ from traditional Greece education by student doesn't have only to listen at the seat and believe everything in teacher but Plato's method make a question to student so they can have an opportunity to think and answer with a reasons. According to Plato and his ideas in education, today many people have focus only their

² Wikimedia Foundation. "Peloponnesian War." *Wikipedia*. 04 Feb. 2013. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peloponnesian_War>.

³ Wikimedia Foundation. "Academy." *Wikipedia*. 5 Feb. 2013. <<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Academy>>

work and goal but forget about happiness in life people should appreciate important of health, aesthetic and entertainment to relax. People can work and do everything more efficiency when have happiness and moral not same as some wealth that successful and achieved their aims but lack of happiness because of unhealthy and bad mental. Plato's students aren't just success but they are good people in society with moral and leadership that will growth to develop country. Additionally, the education should give more chance to student to think rationally, asking for the things that they didn't know and open mind to receive new things so education should not focus only at academic but also others too. Plato's education method have thrown away old system of education and used to be prototype of the new education all over the world especially in western.

The masterpiece influential one of Plato's writing is *The Republic*⁴ which have most influenced to the philosophy and theory of the government and politic until present. It is ideal state of Plato's wrote in form of dialogue between Socrates⁵ and Athenians discussion about wisdom, courage, justice, moderation of the individual in society. The leader of the state should have qualification by have broad be vast of knowledge with brilliant and moral and devoted them to the state. If the state have good quality ruler, it will have good progressive development and management; therefore, living of people are happiness. In this dialogue has explicit conclusion that in the ideal state the only philosopher who have pass the education have more experience strong mind with moral

⁴ Wikimedia Foundation. "Republic (Plato)." *Wikipedia*. 5 Feb. 2013.

<[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Republic_\(Plato\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Republic_(Plato))>

⁵ Wikimedia Foundation. "Socrates." *Wikipedia*. 5 Feb. 2013.

<<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Socrates>>

can fit the rule and Plato really want to show that justice is moral because it represent the good society and need to be in mind of people so it conclude that justice better than injustice. The state is like a mirror image of individuals it is the nature of state and the structure of human nature, state is made from the nature of human whose cannot satisfy their wants only by ourselves but must need helps each other so human assemble to be society. Nowadays, in many country there have a problem about corruption and dishonest of the leader or government and these can lead to to the totally overall mainstream negative effect such as economic, development, stability in the country and it obvious for the country that have high rate of corruption or dishonest are less develop country because slow in the progress of development and have many problems. Not only that the leader must have complete ability and moral but also the civil must have inner goodness. Because society compost of human that have different duty and then society will be perfection from every part in it. If all people effort doing their duty intentionally helping each other, not exploit from the others. Finally society will be prosperous. The most important for form of government is justice.

The other Plato's teaching that is the truth way of life and have big influenced is about individual's characteristic. Law can't command everyone to follow the rules fixed because bad people will always find the way to escape from it or behave not in favor of it but for individuals who have an ethic and behave in a good way do not really need law or any condition to control them. Good people with knowledge and ethic will live freedom and have no reason to fear to punishment of law because they can consider and responsible to the things what they do. Good people will have reason and know about

cause and result. Example people in this kind is ordinary man that do his job honestly, making merit, devoted to society that is this man do all the good things and he will not worry about law but in contrast for the bad people that do the crime, robber as thief, cheating others and anything that make other people worst off. They will live with fear to the laws and always try to escape the punishment so they need law to control them unlike good one.

In conclusion of the influential works and teaching of Plato, These give the important key of human life that is human need to pass the education process of state which on academic accompanied with other activities for the wide board of knowledge, healthy and good mental mind. For the society it require the people that perfect with justice grow up to be leader and develop that is the necessary factor that must have in everyone soul is goodness.