



Philosophy And Its Methodological Characteristics, Ancient And Modern

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Abstract ;

Philosophy, or the act of philosophizing based on the basics and principles of logical thinking, in ancient and modern times, has been linked to the field of searching for truth within the framework of what is derived from actual material related to aspects of human existence and awareness of the perceptions of practical reality that philosophy formulates, emphasizing the cognitive construction of the self and all the issues related to it of the practical and theoretical mind that It constitutes the first mission of philosophy. Philosophy, as an intellectual framework, aims to guide the approach that we follow in studying philosophical issues and questions. It also provides us with the intellectual tools and concepts that it uses to understand and analyze various topics,

Article info

Received

May 31 ;2024

Accepted

July 10 ;2024

Keyword:

- ✓ Philosophy
- ✓ Curriculum
- ✓ Human
- ✓ Logic
- ✓ Knowledge

1. *Introduction*

Philosophy, with its comprehensive and comprehensive system, is still the most prominent topic in scientific and academic circles due to the constant need for it, no matter how great and varied the transformations that man and the contemporary world are witnessing, given that philosophy is a science that exists in itself, and it asks problems and questions related to man and his existence in every time and place. It also cares about his freedom and creates from wisdom a field for implementation. The mind and revive the spirit of criticism within it, so what is thinking? What is its relationship to philosophy? What are the most important methodological characteristics related to it for achieving sound and creative philosophical thought?

1 .The importance of philosophy and its cognitive formations:

It is certain that philosophy is not easy enough to gain theoretical and practical frameworks and practices, as it must be recognized in order to realistically limit its usefulness in that:«Its value lies in its connection with the needs and aspirations of the mind, and as for material needs, they are the function of partial sciences, and that there are needs imposed on us by our existence, our society, and even our values, to study existence as a whole, and to address matters that are not the core of scientific interest, such as morals, values,

spirit, and freedom... Philosophy was and still is. It is the creative mental energy that stimulates more creativity, through the multiple and useful concepts it presents... If we go back to the histories of scattered and prosperous nations, we will see that they reached this goal through philosophizing or philosophy and science and the visions and perceptions that result from them. We always... It is connected to two worlds, the world of clear perceptions and the world of the ambiguous and ambiguous. It is customary for us to use philosophy as a means of dealing with issues. Science, on the contrary, focuses us on a number of precise, partial experiences, but it is averse to dealing with the undefined, the crystallized, and the tangible.»(Al-Jubouri,2021, pp 19-20) What is the truth about philosophy and its intellectual and methodological frameworks, as presented by ancient and modern philosophers?

Philosophizing seems to be an act that some may consider ambiguous, but upon closer examinationQIt can be said that it refers to the world, and it is a product of the love of knowledge in the etymological sense of the word, and it can also be called the art of living better, and therefore it represents a contemplative type of pure knowledge or a more committed practice aimed at a more balanced and useful life. The act of true philosophizing is not something It goes beyond the actions or actions of the mind, but rather it is from

the core of the meaning surrounding the mind surrounding the levels of human understanding and awareness in light of the problems of existence and the accumulation of problems surrounding humans in general. The interest of defining philosophy with the problem of definitions in general is part of the concerns of philosophy itself, because it: «It is concerned with setting definitions and limits for the things that it takes as the subject of its research to the extent that it can be defined as the science of definitions... This means that philosophy cannot be defined, and as John Herman said, philosophy is only a human attempt valid for research and experimentation, and it is not a term for definition, or this is not incompatible with its definition, ancient and modern. With definitions such as that it is a search for truth or that it is the love of wisdom, and therefore it can be said that there is no philosophy, but rather there is philosophizing, in order to avoid the difficulty of definition on the one hand, and because philosophy is a process or activity, and the definition of mental activity is always from the definition of the thing with specific features and entity, and this philosophizing is the conscious mental activity that With it, people try to reveal the nature of thought, the nature of reality, and the meaning of human experience»(Al-Alusi,2005,p14).

Therefore, the search for the meaning of philosophy and its importance in the history of human thought is one of the

basic knowledge that gives an intended dimension simply to obtaining information related to the question in the fields of research and theory, in thought and in reality in all its cultural, political and social dimensions and forms. Considering the theory of knowledge as a basic dimension in the meaning of philosophy is not a denial. Because of the dimension of existence, the basis of it is existence itself. This is because the theory of knowledge includes, as a preliminary condition, the recognition of the objectivity of the world, and one cannot look at it outside the view of the world. Thus: «Socrates admits that he does not have any wisdom, but God forces him to give birth to others and prevents him himself from having children, for he himself has nothing significant of wisdom... and others learn something from him, but rather they find in themselves beautiful and abundant knowledge that is generated in them, and the reason for its generation is God and Socrates generate them»(Plato,1956,p426) In Plato, you find a successive understanding of the meaning of philosophy as the love of wisdom or the love of knowledge, after removing it from its worldly basis that we find among the early sophists and naturalists. For him, it is: «Wisdom means part of the divine nature. The divine nature is beauty, wisdom, and goodness»(Plato,1969,p72).

2.Philosophy, its mission and importance:

Although the conception of philosophy may seem like a simplified definition, it contains different types of thought trends on which this or that conception is based, including:

First: Philosophy as analysis: it is seen as the first major activity based on the issue of analysis and criticism, and in this role: «The thinker analyzes what can be called our mental tools. He studies the nature of thought, the laws of logic and patterns, the relationships between our thoughts and reality, the nature of truth and the validity of the various methods that he uses in arriving at truth or knowledge. He analyzes the methods of science, religion, art, intuition and the natural attitude and shows great interest in any means he uses. people to acquire knowledge or organize their experience, so the philosopher may have been the most interested person in searching for the best ways to reach certainty. Perhaps among the tasks he is interested in is choosing rational methods in all fields in order to see what he can learn from them, but he is more than that interested in evaluating these methods for their own sake.» (Hunter, 2022, p26) What can be specified by saying that the philosopher here is only concerned with the differences between the premises and the results and their validity, so his interest in the truth is more important to him, as the field of searching for the evaluation of abstractions from the truth does not have a clear interest in the credibility of the

explicit statement of the importance of philosophy, but rather it carries an abstract field to reach realistic and logical truths in text, consistency, and work with content. The philosophical process that revolves around the concepts of analysis and criticism. As for the second aspect of it: as a synthesis, its other main task of philosophy is at the same time the oldest traditional task, which is: «It is trying to find a composite of all knowledge and the total human experience, and here the attention is focused on the final result rather than the methods or tools used. In this synthetic activity, the philosopher searches for the most comprehensive possible opinion regarding the nature of reality, the meaning and purpose of life, the origin of consciousness, its status and destiny, and other extreme questions. Here the interest is focused on completeness or comprehensiveness, and the goal is to form a view of the world or an image of the universe that does not omit from human experience anything that can make this continuous flow of experience an organized, integrated whole with its meaning. The modern philosopher is usually careful not to confuse this search for... A comprehensive view of the real world and the implicit belief that any integrated composite of history and human experience is final» (Hunter, 2022, p26).

Philosophy, then, in its overall and broadest sense, indicates the attempts that man has made and is still making, motivated by knowledge and curiosity, to

represent the totality of things and his place in this totality. It includes a general criticism of abstract, contemplative rational research in the field of high generalities of beings, including principles and causes. It is a type of organized contemplation. Which is linked to the personal experience of each individual, and philosophy begins when a person has feelings of amazement and love of practical and scientific curiosity.

3.Characteristics of philosophy:

Among the most important characteristics of philosophical action there is what is called:

-Comprehensiveness: These are:«It considers the issues with a comprehensive view of all their details. It examines existential universals such as evidence, the universe, the soul, and the world across time, space, language, speech, and time, and leaves the details of the issues to the specialized sciences.

- Systematicity: When dealing with an issue, philosophy imposes consistency between the ideas as they are presented, and the systematic arrangement of the analysis from the part to the whole and from axioms and postulates to the most recognized issues and so on. The idea is linked to what preceded it and what follows it, and the sum of ideas composes a single topic.

- Logic: It is an art that enables the mind to understand the relationship between the evidence and the face of inference, and to arrange the evidence in terms of the strength of the significance, and to move quickly from the premises to the conclusions in an acceptable, sound and intuitive sequence, and to gradually present ideas from the simple to the complex, from the easy to the difficult, from the apparent to the deeper, and from the operative. For the concept, for the deducer, for the interpreter, with rational, logical, demonstrative justification.

- Criticism: Permanent reconsideration of all intellectual, doctrinal and scientific issues by presenting the doctrine and its opposite, the idea and what opposes it. The large number of differences in opinions gives an opportunity to consider all of them, compare them, choose the strongest one, or combine them and come up with another opinion.

- Doubt: It is the constant questioning resulting from a lack of reassurance or the search for more certainty. Its purpose is to destroy the initial direct truth in order to prove the truth with other, stronger evidence. It is based on removing the sanctity from beliefs and the absolute truth from scientific ideas and results.»(Bulbul,2018,p18-19).

Philosophy, then, among the above characteristics, does not stop at the level of superficial, deliberative understanding, but rather goes beyond it to give the mind

the essence of solutions to the problems of its time, adhering to the deductive method on which it is based in its ability to adopt its vision of the past with awareness of the present and anticipating the future, and between this and that, philosophy plays the role of permanent accountability. And the profound implications of the individual and group levels, given that philosophy carries the art of questioning and the human attempt to reach a great deal of the commitments of perception and awareness of the self and the other based on different visions and the integration of mental data into its cognitive framework that studies existence as it exists.

On this basis, the three functions of philosophy appear, the first of which is:

- Interpretation of reality: «The first and simplest function of philosophy, as the philosopher is busy looking at the reality that he lives as a whole and expressing this reality, but it is not the change that conveys what is happening in it literally photographically... There is no doubt that certain branches of philosophy seem extremely important in this interpretive framework that It is carried out by philosophy, such as the philosophy of language, the philosophy of history, and others.
- Justifying reality: The justificatory function of philosophy means that there are ideological philosophers whose mission in a given era is to justify the events taking place in it. In this, the

philosopher makes an effort to convince his contemporaries that it will not be possible to be more creative than what actually exists, and therefore he researches With them and for them on how to adapt to the conditions of the times and coexist with them by understanding their dimensions, whether positive or negative.

- Changing reality: This function is undertaken by philosophy if the philosopher finds in a given era that there are diseases in the intellectual, social, or political reality...etc. that require treatment. Since the first task and since the first task of the philosopher is to analyze reality, he arrives through This analysis aims to diagnose these diseases that his society suffers from, and of course he focuses his analysis on intellectual diseases because the philosopher always sees that thought is what leads reality and that looking at the prevailing image of thought in a society reveals the nature of this society and the extent of its backwardness or the extent of its progress.»(Nashar,2017,p28).

Philosophy is a field for expressing the basic force that governs existence with all its religious, social, and anthropological perceptions. The importance of this field in philosophy is what theories and schools are built upon by taking care of it to study it and revealing its strength and weakness in its material and ideal form. In our contemplation of the meaning of the difference between philosophy and

philosophizing, we stop at the phrase Kant shows us that he distinguishes between the two concepts. For him, philosophy cannot be learned because it is an edifice that is not yet complete as long as philosophers always appear who add new things. As for philosophizing, it can be learned because it refers to the method and the rational tools that this or that philosopher uses in his philosophical intellectual practice. So why the interest in studying the history of philosophy?

The answer to this problem can be summarized by saying: «The pattern of development of thought in the philosophical field and human studies in general is organized by the pattern of non-transcendental superposition. This is why Pascal says that the ancients are more youthful than us, in contrast to scientific knowledge, since the pattern of its development is transcendent. This is why Bachelard denotes the pattern of development of scientific knowledge. The history of science is the history of scientific errors.» (Bouazza, 2019,) The philosophers who succeeded Comte called the search for absolute knowledge (epistemology). What is epistemology and what is its relationship to philosophy?

4. Epistemology or the theory of knowledge and its relationship to methodology:

It means considering the absolute knowledge or theory of knowledge. In the most general sense, the science that

investigates the materiality of human science and its formal principles, and in the more specific sense, the science that investigates knowledge in terms of its material principles. This is also the case with logic, as it: «His name is often used in a broader meaning that includes both researches, while in its more specific meaning it denotes the science that investigates knowledge in terms of its formal principles. Therefore, it is appropriate for us to use both words in their specific, conventional meaning, not forgetting at the same time that the two sciences are complementary and united, the first of which is discussed. In the general subject of thinking, the second examines its forms and that the science of knowledge consists of the two» (Collet, 2016, p. 51) And because one of the most important characteristics of philosophy is that it is based on questioning and the critical sense, epistemology as a branch of philosophy depends on the critical issue in its scientific field, provided that each science has its own method imposed on it by the nature of its subject, and if epistemology deals with study and criticism of the principles of the various sciences, their hypotheses, and their results to determine their value. Its objective outcome, as Lalande says, is that methodology is limited to the study of scientific methods, a descriptive, analytical study to show the stages of the process of scientific discovery and the nature of the

relationship that exists between thought and reality during this process. However, this does not mean that there is a complete separation between epistemology and methodology. For example, critical study of scientific methods does not dispense with Knowing the formula of these methods, and from it, the work of methodology is complementary to the work of epistemology. In this regard, Robert Blanche says that epistemology cannot do without studying the methods of science in its critical study because it needs to know the form of the methods of science that it studies in terms of the relationship. However, if the distinction is due to a methodological necessity, it is A must.

5. Why the method and what is its importance in the act of philosophizing?

Far from being limited to a narrow field, the approach indicates: «A general tool required by the requirements of life and existence itself. Therefore, in order to carry out studies and competitions in the best way, an effective strategy must be followed, and then the focused plan supported by determination leads to success... The concept of method is related in reality, far from being limited to the theoretical field of the whole system of life, in that it embodies the work Mind and intelligence do not exist in the life of practice, and perhaps it does not require a path towards any method. We can, of course, ignore this method, avoid it, or

describe it in parentheses, but this ignoring or forgetting leads us to inability. In fact, the general reasons that make the method necessary in every circumstance are rooted in Man himself is this mediating being who is known for being a media producer and for his ability to set stages that ensure the connection between different moments of his discourse, or of his existence.»(Jacqueline,2020,p21) However, the components of philosophizing require the possession of logical and methodological clarity in its statements, which gives added value to the content of philosophizing itself. Philosophical criticism is considered one of the most important philosophical approaches followed in research and study because of the discussions and dialectical debate it produces, which refers to philosophical discussions between people with different opinions about a specific matter.

Philosophical discourse in general is formed from specific intellectual mechanisms that are the origin of the act of philosophizing. However, even if this act is based on astonishment and a question of doubt, the philosophical discourse in its construction depends on a set of transition tools that we can call the tools of the philosophical discourse method, which are the concept, the problem, and the arguments. Analysis, synthesis, and then systematization.

6.Philosophical approaches, ancient and modern:

Philosophers have continued to follow a method or methods of consideration and research, ancient and modern, and some of them have been interested in the issue of the philosophical method with an interest that was evident in the books they devoted to it. As for ancient times: Aristotle and his followers, up until the Middle Ages, viewed philosophy as a science, and philosophy does not differ in its method or in what it should take. From a curriculum on science, and some of this perception has remained in some modern trends in philosophy, so:«We could not say, like the ancients, that philosophy is a science, for it is inevitable that we consider it similar to science or close to it. This is because the dividing line between philosophy and science is not fixed in that it is not due to the nature of the problems, one of which can never be definitively said to be scientific. Or metaphysical, but it is due to our definition of it and the choice of methods that allow us to address it»(Piaget,1992,p65-68) Which means that philosophy is similar to science in that it addresses the human mind, and scientific ideas are not distinguished from philosophical ideas in particular except in that they are supported by stronger arguments than what philosophers provide.

I have:«The teaching of philosophy among the Greeks was linked to indoctrination in

the methods of philosophizing. This indoctrination precedes the departure from philosophy, and includes training in methods of argument and protest. Plato included in his Academy exercises on scientific methods and methods of argumentation. Diogenes the Cynic even refuted Zeno's arguments for denying movement by standing up and walking back and forth. He struck his student, who was satisfied with this method of refutation, and he shouted, saying that the learner should not accept the reasons unless he accepts them without adding his own reasons to them.»(Feyerabnd,1975,pp81-82).

Teaching philosophy without explaining the method of philosophizing is merely teaching ideas. It seems that philosophers have tools in common with all types of human thought, ancient and modern, despite their diversity and some details. But are there special philosophical tools that can be adopted in every era? Which fixed tools serve as a standard for the rest of the research and studies across time and different places?

Jaspers stated that we:«We can learn philosophy just as a scientist learns a portion of historical science, except that historical knowledge of a philosophy does not indicate a personal judgment issued after deep intuition, and whoever wants to philosophize should look at all doctrines as if they constitute only the history of the use of the mind and the means for

exercising the mind. He wrote In this sense, Kant said that the student should not learn ideas, but rather think. The young man who has finished his school education may become accustomed to learning and think that he will now learn philosophy, which is impossible, so he must from now on learn how to philosophize.»(Al-Tahir,1990,p15)Since ancient Greek philosophy, Aristotle taught us how to distinguish between errors and correct inferences, but that was only the classification and correction of a wealth of material, the credit for inventing the largest portion of which goes to the Sophist. Thus, the Platonic debate and the Aristotelian debate have a common origin, represented by the Sophists' practice of coexistence, as Plato alluded to. Despite Aristotle's assertion in his response to them, no one preceded him in controversy and the theory of inference, and here:«It is necessary, then, to differentiate between dialectic as Plato and then Aristotle knew it, for example, which is philosophical dialectic and rhetorical dialectic, or argumentation according to the Sophists, as these people keep winning in mind while others try to reach the truth... Arkasilas, in his new academic institution, developed an aspect of the Platonic dialectic, which is to present and discuss Regarding each subject, it has its own and its own, through questions and answers, as is the custom in Platonic dialogue... Descartes, for example, considered that the logical mind that Aristotle spoke about

was sterile and opposed it to the mathematical mind, and affirmed that, thanks to his method, he could use his mind in everything and followed him in In principle, for more than two centuries, all rationalists have had the mathematical or physical sciences as the model for this mind»(Al-Tahir,1990,p28).

7.The most important contemporary philosophical approaches and theories:

Modern philosophies adopt various approaches, including those mentioned above, the rational, analytical, synthetic, critical, dialectical, and other approaches according to the frameworks of the issues at hand. It also relies on deductive, inductive, descriptive, historical, and psychological methodologies in analyzing ideas and phenomena. In general, there are many internal structures and relationships in the phenomena that philosophy adopts within its framework. Methodological theories are contemporary theories, including structuralism and deconstruction. As for structuralism, it refers to a group of approaches that developed in the first half of the twentieth century, and its pioneering role diminished somewhat when Noam Chomsky published his book "Syntactic Structures" in 1957 and founded what is called the science of generative and transformative grammar. What has emerged has been It is called post-structuralism, a name developed by American academics to refer to the heterogeneous works of French

thinkers in the sixth and seventh decades of the twentieth century as well. As for deconstruction and deconstruction, it is considered one of the trends of post-modernism or post-structuralism, which is a reading strategy that seeks to approach texts and make them a different interpretation of meanings. Conflicting and multiple readings, and this is by going beyond the metaphysics of presence and establishing the text and philosophy of difference.

8.Conclusion:

The concepts and elements of the philosophical method are the basis of philosophizing and one of the most important components of critical thinking that scholars adopt in the process of action and philosophical deduction in order to uncover the problem, determine its frameworks, and reach solutions that may not achieve the answer, but rather search for the nature of the question in the search for the truth, given that philosophy has It loses its value apart from the classification of knowledge that is far from the method of reasoning in most of its issues, and history bears witness, as Hassan Hanafi expresses it, that philosophy may die when the method is absent, even if what is known in new theories as what is called non-methodology. Indeed, philosophy may turn into inherited knowledge, most

of which is layered on top of each other without A way to reach it, and this is not one of the goals of the act of philosophizing, which arranges the priorities of thought and the actions of the mind according to the gradations of the cognitive style that is supposed to embrace a set of basics of speech to reveal the evolutionary and conceptual structures to achieve an important percentage of the truth to be reached.

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