

Social Justice in Egypt

Following 25 of January and 30 June, the social justice became one of the popular demands priorities and under the erosion of the constitutions that allowed earlier a reasonable degree of equal opportunities as a basis for social mobility and class advancement.

The social justice concept did not take its right for the purpose of constants stability which should be based upon and determine the rights and duties of the state and community classes. Social justice became a slogan that needs to be interpreted into specific policies ensuring the key needs of housing, education and health ... and hence it is sometimes called "Civil Justice" as a concept that affects the justice in general and goes beyond its legal definition.

The limited application of the equality concept may have to sacrifice the individual freedoms to guarantee a decent standard of living for all people... Thus, the economic side is a part of social justice system, which includes as well legislative, legal, cultural and human rights aspects.

Social justice is the method to achieve justice as possible in the geographical distribution among the governorates of Egypt; as well, it unfolds the horizons for the development of some governorates in order to find its ample share in competition to attract investments.

Justice is a set of humanitarian principles that guides people for what is right or wrong in their judgment. Justice is considered one of the behaviors that help the citizen to develop his human capabilities which enabling him to achieve his interests and working with others to achieve the common welfare.

Social justice... Equality

There are those who believe that the only moral and natural distribution is to get a space, which is not too bad of equality of income and wealth among all citizens. And that the unequal distribution is a proof of the loss and absence of justice. Thus, takes into consideration the efforts, production and efficiency through individual differences between one citizen and another.

Social justice... Priority

Wealth must be decided based on the needs no one can live without. It also goes far beyond the requirements and desires. There are people in need of basic needs to survive, such as food, clothing and shelter. It is considered of a great importance as merits and not mere wishes. Therefore, the needs have a priority over the wishes.

Social justice... Merit

It is based on the notion that the citizen gets what he deserves. And he should get what he deserves... Believing that work, efforts, skills, achievements and results... Justify the economic value of human.

Social justice... right

Social justice... is based on rights. It is also based on the way under which the citizens get their wealth. Justice, according to the Greek philosophers, is the foundation of a good community. Therefore, it is normal to find a quest for using the language of justice to promote for its wishes in seizing power and wealth distribution.

Social justice

It is that all citizens enjoy equality in getting the available opportunities for the distinguished categories. This is done through the spreading of the spirit and culture of peaceful coexistence among citizens based on the existence of effective and quick legislation in order to maintain the equity of participation in the growth industry, the equitable distribution of the growth yield, the compensative justice between able-bodied and non-able-bodied and narrowing the differences in living standard among all Egyptian society classes through:

- Appropriate income between the minimum and maximum limits of wages
- Equitable distribution of wealth between various service domains
- Equality between the classes of the same community

Social justice is an economic system, which aims primarily to remove the huge economic differences between the classes of society. Thus, it represents a sort of providing fair treatment and share percentage of the society revenues. Hence, it is in its simple meaning enables the citizen of the decent life through which, without trouble, he gets a job that suits his experience, skills and education regardless of the level, that the citizen can provide his family through the income of this job, provide them housing, food and clothing and that is after the state provides him good education and real health care all in a clean environment and in a society that is free of corruption, bribery and favoritism.

Justice: social and economic

The social justice includes economic justice... as the behavior that guides us towards creating organized humanitarian interactions... Which appear in the form of institutions. Those, which provide us with the access possibility for what is in the favor of the citizen within his community at both levels the individual and the cooperation with others. Also, social justice imposes upon us the responsibility of working with others to establish and improve our institutions as a tool for social and personal development.

The economic justice includes the ethical principles, which guide us during establishing economic institutions... and which determine the way that the individual earns his daily living, concluding of contracts and exchanging goods and services with others or the production of independent basis for his income.

Commitments of achieving social development according to Social Development Copenhagen Conference in 1995

- Eliminate infinite poverty.
- Support full employment.
- Encourage social integration based on human rights promotion.
- Achieve equality between woman and man.
- Develop Africa and developing countries.
- Include the social development objectives within the structural adjustment programs.
- Create a suitable economic, political, social, cultural and legal environment for achieving social development.
- The equality for all to get education and primary health care.
- Enhance cooperation for social development via the United Nations.

Elements of the social justice system

- Equitable distribution of resources and obligations between generations.
- Social insurance.
- Eliminate discrimination, exclusion and social marginalization policies.
- Gender equality and commitment to human rights.
- Enhance the rights of migrants and minorities.
- Equality, non-discrimination and equal opportunities.

The social justice aims at:

- Eliminating social and economic difference between the community classes.
- Providing equity and fair distribution of the national wealth to reduce poverty rates.
- Enjoying the results of the economic development for all.

The pillars of achieving social justice:

- Establish the state strategy on integration and solidarity between different classes of the society.
- Adopt the principle of equal opportunities in the key services field (education – health care – housing – social insurance...).
- Social coverage of the risk of disease, disability, aging and unemployment. And to facilitate the inclusion of qualified categories for social insurance.
- Provide the minimum limit of needs for all people: the right of work, education, health and housing.
- Adjust markets and prices by dismantling the dominant current monopolies of the structures for trade, import and basic industries. And continuous revision of the market laws.

- Enhance the real competition images in the markets through obligatory legislative policies.
- Support of commodity and public services and efficient targeting for the deserved categories.
- Expand the powers of the executive and civil bodies.
- Activate the civil society organizations role and helping them supporting the society development plans.
- Support the union movement to regroup and formulate its demands.
- Cooperation and partnership between: the state institutions, the civil society and the private sector.
- Geographic targeting for poor and random areas in the country and urban.
- Prepare a multi-stage time-bound work plan that includes socio-economic development programs.
- Create a permanent social protection network to face the effects of the unfair economic policies.
- Plan for economic and social policy aiming at bridging the gap between the community classes.
- Reform the tax system by imposing progressive sections.
- Confront all forms of exclusion, discrimination and social exclusion.
- Issue judicial legislation to eliminate the corruption system.
- Apply quick justice without special considerations (favoritism – bribes...).
- Attract foreign investments through raising the level of education and training the workforce.
- Encourage and support the cooperative system notably in the agricultural field.
- Prompt small, medium and cooperative investments.

Standards of social justice achievement

- **Equality in income distribution:** income distribution among citizens at the local or the national level is based on categories such as social and economic situation, profession, gender, location. It is one of the most important criteria, which indicates the equality, or inequality of the society.
- **Equality in property distribution:** this standard does not include only capital, but includes also physical property such as: land and buildings. There is as well a strong positive connection between the income distribution and the property distribution. And these two factors largely determine the social situation and political influence, besides they are considered a motive basic incentive for the revolutions.
- **Equality of jobs opportunities distribution:** it is the primary determinant of income distribution and the key indicator for the economic and social justice.

- **Equality of the right and potentiality of get knowledge:** it is a standard connected to the rates of schools and universities entry and related to education quality. As education (in all its forms: technical education, adult education and community schools..) is one of the most important elements to ensure getting a good job opportunity and social movement as well it is an important determinant in the majority of communities on the social situation.
- **Equality of the distribution for health services, social security and provide safe environment:** the traditional indicators for good life, like: average age, rates of children death, quality differences, economic / social status and housing area are used with other data to determine and measure the inequality in distributing all community elements which should be provided to the community members as well as the ability of getting and facilitating health services, social services and the quality of these services.
- **Equal opportunities for civic and political participation:** this form of equality is very complicated and sensitive as the practice of democracy is usually limited to those who vote in the parliamentary and presidential elections. Thus, inequality in this element clearly demonstrates political inequality and consequently the lack of social justice.

Social justice and civil community

Which can be achieved through:

- Encouraging small associations and civil work and motivating those supporting it.
- Establishing networks and alliances between the civil society organizations which are interested in social justice.
- Working on parliamentarians' realization of social justice in order to support with the necessary policies and laws.
- Utilizing multi-media and legal mechanisms in order to take the necessary measures to achieve social justice.
- Spreading repeatable development models and initiatives in the governorates via experience exchange.
- Providing the opportunity for all to participate in the development with small projects so as to encourage financial institutions to finance these projects in support of small investors in order to achieve financial returns to improve their living standard and realize social justice.
- Contributing to overcome the obstacles and modify legislation to open investment horizons and allow the flow of capitals that provide jobs opportunities, which in turn achieve social justice...

- Stimulating the community participation for companies and the business community in order to stand side by side with the state to take care of low-income people and thus achieving social justice.

Social or civil justice is a social / economic system, which aims to overcome and remove economic differences between the classes of the same society through providing fair treatment. And the civil society may perform an obvious role whether by awareness or via their development programs, activities and projects.

Social justice is the work of the civil society

The civil society work is within the basis of spreading the social justice, while the social justice provides the necessary basis for the civil society work. If the justice is concerned with the material and laws, which guide the daily life of the citizen, the civil society is concerned with the interaction between humans and exceptional humane cases. The civil society work provides justifications during crises and disasters to alleviate the suffering of the affected citizen. This is in order to transfer the citizen from the need status to the status of providing support and assistance through the community crowd.

Phrases that can be used in boxes

- The United Nations determines the 20th of February of each year to celebrate the World Day of Social Justice...
- The social development and the social justice are the pillars of achieving peace and security...
- The social justice is closely connected to the social development policies...
- Freedom has two wings, which are the democracy wing and the social justice wing...
- The citizen cannot practice his political freedom until he gets free from all exploitation forms...
- Social justice is achieved by the people's control on the production methods via economic planning through the people's democratic state in order to achieve prosperity...

Sayings that can be used in boxes

- * Martin Luther King: injustice anywhere is a threat for justice everywhere...
- * Henry Louis Mencken: if you want peace, do for justice...
- * Ghassan Kanafani: this world insignificantly crushes justice everyday...
- * Socrates: nothing can be favoring before justice...
- * Hurklites: people would not had been known justice if there was not injustice...
- * Thomas Sowell: justice is as a whole "social" namely it relates to the interaction between more than one person. So, it is antisocial justice as it ignores the price paid by the community for responding to these demands.

Margins

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