

History of Architecture and Culture – 5

Lecture - 1

Modernity

Modernity typically refers to a post traditional post medieval historical period. Post traditional period what is that mean. Does it mean we had long traditional period no post traditional and then there is another word called post medieval period. This specifically tell you this the period that come after the medieval era. It's a period which marked by the move from feudalism took capitalism also towards industrialization, secularization, rationalization, the rise of nation state and its constituent institutions and forms of surveillance. Before the modernity during the medieval era it was a purely an agrarian kind of environment where feudalism was the only thing which was existing. We will know how feudalism works. There are bunch of workers and then there is a feudal lord it's kind of a box.

These workers of work on a daily wages or monthly wage or weekly wage system. The work on the lands of the feudal lord. They till the land they make produce they reap the harvest. Finally the feudal lord gets to sell the all produce and he give very minimal wages to the people who are working with him. If somebody not correspond to this system it is most likely that they starved to death. The feudal lords are very wealthy and most of them very greatly. Does it's a period where the feudalism kind of went down and then we moved onto capitalism, industrialization, secularization. But understand all this we must also try to understand certain terminology which will looking at the next few slides.

First is bureaucracy, bureaucracy is being impersonal social hierarchies that practice a division of labor and are marked by a regularity of method and procedure. Bureaucracy is nothing but there is a scheme or overall design list of set of procedures which are predefined in a social hierarchies and setup. So this is bureaucracy. We need to also

understand about disenchantment of the world, disenchantment of the world is the loss of sacred and metaphysical understandings of all facets of life and culture. Previously the feudal era and in the medieval era what happened was everything was had a mistake explanation. The people had explanation which were very metaphysical in nature. Metaphysical in the sense people had the celestial body, people had all sorts of thing that don't exist in the physical world to explain come term like sun and wind and rain. But at this era we calling at the age of enlightenment. So people got to reason things, people got to understand things knowledge spread. Which means that the enchantment of the things got dissolve. So the world became demystified the concepts of great concepts of religion culture the world itself become little more demystified and this is we called disenchantment of the world.

The next concept is rationalization the world can be understood and managed through a reasonable and logical system of objectively accessible theories and data. This is what rationalization suggest it means that they are serious of questions. Which can be asked and all the questions can be answered by properly accessible theory and data. You have answers logical answers to all questions and all the question have sense of reasons around everything. Nobody will tell you that it has been this way and this why we are doing the certain thing in rationalization no one is going to tell you like that. They goanna tell you the reason why the certain thing has been done certain way. Probably because it was easy probably because it save time, probably because it has a set of orderly principle. That is why certain work has been done certain way. Nobody goanna tell you this is how it was in this how. It has been always a follow but orderly reason are questioned. Nobody goanna tell that in the rationalization world.

Moving on we will looking at terminology called secularization the loss of religious influence and or religious belief at a social level. This is the lots of religious influence at a social level. Which means the church

which was the most influential bodyback then it's not going to influence social character at all times. With the influence of the church making the rules and making the logic and making all the loss of the land as going to reduce. Secularization is the process of taking away the influence which the religion had on the social structure. Decontextualization, Decontextualization is the removal of social practices, beliefs and cultural objects from their local cultures of origin. For example there is a local culture and traditional people have been following that particular tradition for very long time. And suddenly take of this social practices there are Decontextualizes. They don't have a context. If a certain religion practices or social practices or cultural beliefs are applied toward different context say in aboriginal species participating doing a ritual it has been taken and portend in civilized world that become a Decontextualization. Remove the context and then you mismatch at you remove the beliefs from certain basic context that is Decontextualization.

Then will be looking at something called individualism is growing stress on individuals as opposed to mediating structure such as family, clan, academy, village, church etc. just goes on to explain that if I made a discovery, if I made a beautiful invention the invention has to go my name it cannot go in my family name, it cannot go my academy name, it cannot go to my group of beliefs system people, it cannot go to my village it cannot go to the church and it cannot go to any other organization. The reorganization has to come to me and also if I have to face criticism for the certain thing. I have to face it in my name there is no other thing going responsibility. That is why in the medieval era it sense of a responsibility from individual was lost were as in this age of enlightenment its sense of responsibility by an individual has grown many times.

We also looking at few more definition like nationalism the rise of the modern nation states as rational centralized governments that often cross

local ethnic groupings. It is basically the rise of nation states suppose to the Papal States usually the existing thing what was happen in the church and its complete area dominant papal states. And opposing to that there are modern nation states monarchy and sometimes even democracy's which from centralized governments. Which have often lots ethnic groups together in the one bundle. They don't have just one ethnic group forming one country. They have a lot of ethnic group lot of kinds of ethnic groups form in one country. Next is urbanization is the move of people, cultural centers and political influence to large cities. When industrial revolution came people started to move from village, smaller town, larger town and cities. The cultural center became a city the most happening place became a city. The economic zone become the city. The people in cities became richer and people in village became poor that when urbanization became. It is the characteristic move of people and culture center and political and economic influences from rural areas to larger cities.

Subjectivism is the concept of turn inward for definitions and evaluations of truth and meaning. It means you don't go particular book or particular person for an opinion you ask yourself. You turn inward for definitions and evaluations am I doing right you ask inward you don't ask anybody else because according to you what matter what it was important according to this particular ideology and it also mean the people have different ideas can be expressed appreciated and taken note off. That is no one universal truth and this particular setting. So with these definitions we can go attack the term modernity.

Charles Pierre was a French poet who also produced notable works as an essayist, art critic and he was pioneering translator of famous American writer and literati Edgar Allan Poe. His most famous work, the flower of evil, expresses the changing nature of beauty in modern, industrializing Paris city during the 19th century. He is credited with coining of the term modernity to designate the fleeting, ephemeral experiences of life in an

urban metropolis and the responsibility art has to capture that experiences. Will go onto look at beautiful concept called age of enlightenment. Why we called the age of enlightenment I will tell you briefly. The age (1650-1800) it invokes a specific movement in western philosophy the way of thinking itself. Modernity tends to refer only to the social relations associated with rise of capitalism. Modernity may also refer to tendencies in intellectual culture, particularly the movement intertwined with secularization and postindustrial life such as Marxism, existentialism and the formal establishment of social science. So people started thinking and people started writing way of life, people started philosophy's different kinds of philosophy existed in the particular period. They were different branches of schools of thoughts and philosophy which branched out from this particular period of time. So this is called age of enlightenment.

Modernity and Modernism

People always confuse modernity and modernism literally tell you what modernity and modernism are and how they goanna differ. In context modernity has been associated with cultural and intellectual movements of 1436-1789 and extending to the 1970s or later. It simple modernity has something which happen and the 17th, 18th century. Modernism has something which happen in the 20th century. Modernity is something that explain social condition and experiences that are effect of industrialization and modernization. They were huge improvement in technology, economy, political process, philosophy and every single thing with the advent of industrial revolution in its center. Where modernism is a dominant idea throughout the western world. Already industrialized it happen in the industrialized world. The change in ideology or in term of art, in term of design, in term of architecture, in terms of literature. For almost the entirety of 20th century that was modernism. So here it is difference between modernity and modernism as it.

When considering 20th century art, architecture and design need to consider relationship between modern art, architecture and modern life. Modernity was a term first used by 19th century French poet and critic Charles Baudelaire to denote the experience of living in the new modern world and describe the art of the mid-19th century. Baudelaire didn't talk about how the trains and how the machines how beautiful those machines are. He merely talk about how life has become in this modernized world that is what he actually talks about. So looks at the beginning of modernity like was telling Baudelaire wasn't just describing physical or technological changes in the world like railway engines, new kinds of building etc. but what it felt like to live in new condition. Can say that modernism gives form and symbolic expression to the consciousness of modernity. There was a shared structure of feeling which distinguish modern world from the kind of experiences people had of the world past. The modern condition its difference being a key element of what made the modern as modern.

Let quickly look at different characters of modernity. During the modernity what are all happen rise of the nation state, growth of tolerance as apolitical and social belief, industrialization, rise of mercantilism and capitalism, emergence of socialist countries, discovery and colonization of the nonwestern world, rise of representative democracy, increasing role of science and technology, urbanization, mass literacy. Among these things we must look at growth of tolerance is very important potential tool because that is something which change the way people thing back in these days. Because that is the one spark which change the idea of feudalism into capitalism. There is one spark created capitalism that created the modern economy that created the mercantilism that created the socialism and lot of western philosophies from this single think called growth of tolerance. Because they were able to tolerate different ideas. If come up with new ideas I was able say ok you have different idea going to appreciate that. That was something which we need to really understand and take from them.

We look into beautiful style called neoclassicism is the name given to western movements in the decorative and visual arts, it also happened in literature, theatre, music and architecture that draw inspiration from the classical art and culture of ancient Greece or ancient Rome. The main neoclassical movement coincide with the 18th century age of enlightenment. The beauty of neoclassical architecture is we talk about the age of enlightenment. The neoclassical movement and age of enlightenment exactly coincide. If you look at features of neoclassical architecture you will understand why I am so excited about why it is coincided with age of enlightenment. Age of enlightenment is the age people started thinking people started reasoning out thing and people had a reason for why they are doing particular thing and not merely following what was already done. So they had new reasons as why they doing each and every single thing. They had the enlightenment. Now look at some neoclassical architecture elements and let's try correlated why it has coincided with age of enlightenment. In architecture the style continued throughout the 19th and 20th century and even into the 21st century because there are lot of buildings which sometime follow the neoclassical style too.

The neoclassical movement started after 1765 AD. As a reaction against both the surviving baroque and Rocco styles. Remember baroque and Rocco styles we saw them history of architecture three were in looking at Renaissance architecture and we looking at baroque and Rocco architecture as majorly highly decorative form of architectures which existed in the western philosophy at that time. So this neoclassical architecture was the reaction to baroque and Rocco styles. It was desire to return back to the perceived purity of the arts of Rome. Because they thought baroque and Rocco were merely clans dusting. They were just on that exterior they were just not pure they were impure.

The blankets work thing at a pure. So they wanted to go back they were thought pure. The perceived purity of roman and Greek styles.

Neoclassical architecture was in part to the excess of baroque, rococo and was also partly due to the consequence of new discoveries of Greek, roman architecture. Also what happened was certain Greek, roman architecture building concepts were recently discovered and then they try to decide for what they did. And they try to install those concepts inside the buildings. So part of reason because of reaction to rococo and baroque style and another part is due to the new discoveries which their made about of Greek, roman architecture. Neoclassical art and architecture art produced in Europe and North America from about 1750 through the early 1800s marked by the emulation of Greco roman forms. Neoclassicism first gained influence in Paris through a generation of French arts students trained at the French academy in Rome. Now here take a look at what happened in neoclassicism stated you can see the way they can may sculpture the way they may painting the way they may architecture. Everything was related to how they thought was processing. They had thought process in single thing and the sculpture became more prominent, the sculpture became more thoughtful, they became more conceptual the concepts and ideas of all the things they were thinking were all reflect the sculpture and architecture they were made.

Let take a quick look at how neo classicism started in Paris many of the first generation of neoclassical architects received training in the classic French tradition through a series of exhaustive and practical lectures that was offered for decades by Jacques François Blondel. The finest example of this style were civic building and private houses. They were few examples which were build the neo classical era. Look at this building it has all these elements are simple pure architecture they were perceived by the neoclassicist. The architecture they derive from Greek and Latin buildings, Greek and Rome architecture. The pediment the columns fascia the window element plaster. The architecture was essentially simple as post to baroque and rococo. Because that is why they wanted to do something against something baroque and rococo.

They didn't want do the same extra ornamental ultra-floral element they neglected all those things. They formulated much simpler much elegant structures the neo classical architecture take look the picture. Look at how simple column and slanders are without lot of ornamental details. Most of the ornamental related plainly to the column capital to the pediments or to some extent to get the entrances some extent to accentuating entrance and so on.