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On the human condition: The primacy of politics and its plurality of forms

10 Theses

1

Human beings are creative beings, and politics is the principal mode of their creativity.

2

Plato's insight: In world of humans all is perpetually in motion, only the world of the Gods is a stable one.

Humans need a principal response to the fluidity of reality wherein they find themselves: This response is politics – the creative endeavour to cope with the continuing change and mutation of things

3

Aristotle's insight: The human reality is a reality of the many (his term: *plethos*). Yet, humans need, in many regards, a unity. They have to address a continuing tension between the "one" and the "many". Politics is their mode of creating instances of unity out of the many.

4

Politics arises as a response to the natural helplessness of the human body (no natural defense, no natural protection regarding climate conditions, necessities of life like food, shelter).

5

The notion of a "natural state" (Hobbes, Rousseau) is a fantasy, a purely logical stratagem.

6

The human body is opaque. To act towards each other and with each other humans practise a politico-hermeneutical response, in the mode of signs, signals and gestures and through

language – to build hermeneutical bridges between their impenetrable minds, to practise politics in the mode of conversation, debate, a search for consent.

7

The many need to act together. This acting together can occur only through an agent: leadership in the form of a government is necessary. The political issues of governing arise.

8

Political power needs to be actualized. But there is never an emptiness of power. A political creativity towards power is required – once and for ever.

9

The practise of power is a journey towards one`s exertion of power. Only the experience of the journey brings to the fore the talents and the strength that the journey requires.

10

The process of politics actually takes place in the human soul. From the soul emerge the forms wherein politics takes shape.