A Discussion on Meaningfulness of Propositions with Special Reference to Logical Positivism

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The logical positivism is third paradigm of analytical philosophy; from Betrend Russell to later Wittgenstein, the analytical thinkers have been centered language as the main inquiry in their philosophical investigations. In particular, the logical positivists founded a theory, is known as the theory of verification. Russell emphasized the propositions depend on their verifiability. However that project completed by early Wittgenstein in his Tractatus and that was directed to logical positivism. This theory indicates, a proposition (statement) can be verified according to factual things and our experiences. To them, a factual statement must be represented the reality or things of outer world. Hence they explained the principles adapting that into a slit way the meaning of a factual statement is its method of verifiable. from this implication, they emphasized several points as such there are so many propositions in our languages. Therefore, we have to verify their meaningfulness and meaningless propositions should be eradicated because of the philosophical problems are come from the misunderstanding of the contextual meanings of language. Likewise, they inquired inner epistemological relation of language and its relation to outer world indicating the linguistic approach instead of the reality approach. Thus they emphasized a logical language (non-natural) should be for the discussion and solving of the philosophical problems. However, this contrast with later Wittgenstein's idea of meaning of a statement is in its use. This research paper goes into a detailed study of the logical positivism's main theses and verification theories; practical, theoretical, direct, indirect, weak and strong verifications. The method of description can be used in this research paper to understand and solve those scholastic problems. In particular, this logical positivists' argument considers to purpose for the modern application of linguistic philosophy.

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