Pluralistic Approach to Truth and Moral Justification: Special Reference with Jain Epistemology

Ratugamage Asha Nimali Fernando University of Sri Jayewardenepura Fernandonimali561@gmail.com

Truth pluralism is a metaphysical and epistemological theory about the nature of truth. It is therefore; concerned with that in virtue of which propositions are true, when they are lucky enough to be true. So that pluralism mean there is more than one property of propositions are true. Jainism or the ancient Indian philosophical tradition was deeply pay attention to this pluralistic truth long years ago. The Jain doctrine of *anekãntavãda* and the associated doctrines of *nayavãda* and *syãdvãda* used to address the pluralistic and relativistic position to the truth and moral justification. The term *anekãntavada* translated literally as non-absolutism and it accepted the relativism and pluralism, in other words the multiplicity and relativity of views. By this Jain meant that in many cases the arguments espoused by the various participants in a debate all held some validity. Because the Jain position was able to overcome the apparent inconsistencies between the others views. However, it came closer to finally grasping the one underlining truth.

The main purpose of this paper is that to evaluate and analyse the nature of Jain pluralistic truth. As well, this study will pay attention on how Jain philosophical thoughts formulate their argument based on this pluralistic logical method and its application to modern debates on pluralistic justification in modern morals. This study is a conceptual analysis therefore this involves deep comparative investigation of the existing text for Jain philosophy.

This paper consist with three sections, First section will explore the main three doctrines, which is needed, to our discussion. Those are *anekãntavãda*, *nayavãda*, *syãdvãda* these doctrines have profound implications for the discourse of religious pluralism and relative truth. Second section discusses the nature of multi-faces truth in modern epistemology. The final section will apply the Jain pluralistic truth to moral justification.

Keywords: epistemology; Jain, non- absolutism; Pluralism; truth