



Book Review

The Tacit Dimension by Michael Polanyi, (Philosophy-Science)

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Abstract

The book *The Tacit Dimension* by the author Michael Polanyi speaks about the different dimensions of Knowledge of the world in a philosophical context. The author deals with the many facets of Knowledge, knowing its emergence and how society explored it in the three chapters. He tried to enumerate the above things. The book is for insightful reading to an ordinary man who understands how Knowledge works and how different associations of Knowledge are in our society with academic, societal, intellectual, and personal endeavours. The book shifts the reader's attention from intimate Knowledge to a philosophical knowledge perspective. The author finds Knowledge is of different dimensions where it is subjected to every individual's upbringing, perception, sensations, and the way s/he interacts with intrinsic and extrinsic motivations. Various paradoxes we frequently encounter in the world are subjected to how things exist, how things appear, and how we perceive them with our information.

"Mere information is not Knowledge. Mere Knowledge is not Wisdom."

- Dr Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan

This book dedicates the author's systematic beliefs in science, faith, and society during the 1940s. Though this book's time frame is too long in the present scenario, the relevance of this book is still intact

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as per the author and his emotions. The author became a philosophical practitioner after his career as a scientist, and he had many philosophical questions in mind with his ideological frameworks and theories to pursue Knowledge under political and social influences. Independent and scientific thought denial was prevalent during his tenure, during the Cold War. He deals with the questions in his mind and their intricacies to deal with many things in the real world. Human Knowledge is determined by "we can know more than we can tell." It is a phrase quoted by the author in the book.

He gives examples of facts and information about a person. How human brain remember faces of people and recollects it with recognition when we meet the same person again.; he has given accounts of gestalt psychology to justify his perception of physiognomy through how humans catch an object and process it into a concrete derivation of thoughts. He will try to adjust some recent physiological experiments with which Knowledge is tacitly acquired. He mentions the involvement of two things in the basic structure of tacit knowing. In connecting the various elements, he tried to draw some logic from the non-particulars relying on functional relations. Other questions of the physiognomy deal with the phenomenal structure of Knowledge. He tried to establish a significance between the terms of characteristics of his enemy. He denies that all meaning tends to be displaced away from us with proximal and distal terms. He concludes that perception is an instant of tacit knowing by how we learn to feel the end of a tool or a pro hitting things outside our generalizations. He dates to German thinkers about the striking form of implicit knowing, which deals with the crucial question of modern science establishing detached, objective Knowledge. He says research can be successful only if the problem is good by stressing correctly on problem formulation in the first place rather than hurrying to find or derive meaning to our questions

The author says that Knowledge will be driven by problems, hunches, and skills of the human being as premature knowing of existence by our senses and the verifiability of objects surrounding us makes us distinct from the world's other creatures. When two persons interact, subjective interpretation will be according to the

intention of the communicator and the receiver. It works both ways, and he gives an example of chess players practicing the games played by their Masters to realize and introspect what was going on in the minds of the masters in the first place. This process of inquiry and drawing inference by fitting themselves into the shoes of master's by players is one of the abstract examples of comprehending Knowledge as per the author for reaching many implications of tacit knowing. They will be like a brick maker, making the brick, and the town planner uses it according to the necessity and the design they intend to create in the landscape. As we all know, the brick maker will not get any appreciation for his brickmaking thing than that town planner receives the praises for creating edifices. There is also an example of a college student, a lecturer, or someone who wants to give a speech in front of an audience. Here, s/he should know to whom he is delivering and how they want to curate the address to make it have a better impact.

Many years ago, around the Renaissance, the study of life, science, and manifestations became prevalent among scholars. Scholars primitively treated nature as a machine with a comprehensive entity working in a distinct yet arranged manner. The author gives examples of engineering, physics, and chemistry subjects. How this works with different applications and associations, how a machine obeys the laws of physics the same way is drawn from nature, where physics, in the first place, is treated as an integral part of our nature and its moment. The author discusses the principle of marginal control, where boundary conditions versus physical and chemical changes among materials happen with the embryonic development of division and regulation powers. He believes no level can control its boundary conditions as a child comprehends its environment. How it is exposed to understand it is a human existence in the first place. The author believes that as of today, it is more complex than insects, as human moral decisions form a particular instance into deciding their course of action and its consequences.

The book enables the very fact of Knowledge and its assumptions from the author concerning his generalized exploration over his illustrated career. Chapter A, Society of Explorers, deals with this fact of emergence in knowing the tacit dimension of

Knowledge. His bearings or not struck to any theory. His aspirations, scientific skepticism, and emotions toward it enabled him to dive deep into Knowledge and its various branches. He has given many examples of famous sociologists like Max and others to justify his theory on Knowledge.

He thinks an infant's brain development during its early years with exposure to society and its environment makes things appear natural. He has given an account of traditional versus skepticism and how it involves the development of the human mind from infancy. The answer always stressed scientific interest as a prerequisite to developing Knowledge over time by curiosity. His self-contradiction involves various explorations and his perception to make the reader believe Knowledge is infinite and subjective. The way a scientist conceives problems and passive investigation makes him distinct from the crowd on established universalism principles, making imagination profound to doubt theory and derive an explanation.

Overall, the author tried to emerge Knowledge, its meaning, reliability, and relativity to humans, and comprehension of his or her outside world within a scientific framework focused on philosophy. The author believes that problems can be solved on secular grounds, but at the same time, religion is scientific to scientific inquiry and confirmations. Without which the human race will continue to suffer more and more due to its own fundamental unchangeable testaments leading to more disruptions than diving into the ocean of knowledge and enlightenment.