

佛教經濟倫理芻議 ——以韋伯命題與方法為中心

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摘要

馬克斯·韋伯和丹尼爾·貝爾的學說，討論了在資本主義產生和發展的時期，宗教對資本主義社會中的功能變化、資本主義文化矛盾的出現，以及其可能的解決辦法。同時，他們的思想給佛教提出了一種前所未有的挑戰，但是貝爾的思想又給予佛教的發展一種激勵。

韋伯式的挑戰在於當資本主義陷入困境，「宗教衝動力」已經逐漸耗散；那麼現代佛教是否能從傳統佛教（包括印度佛教、古代中國佛教）中攝取智慧，為丹尼爾·貝爾的「合成的宗教」提供一種獨特的思想資糧？因此，我們利用韋伯「理想類型」的方法，從一切歷史時期的佛教中攝取佛教經濟倫理的智慧——主要來自原始佛教的經典，重構了佛教的職業倫理和消費倫理。

關鍵詞：馬克斯·韋伯、丹尼爾·貝爾、佛教經濟倫理、佛教職業倫理、佛教消費倫理

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A Tentative Study of Economic Ethics in Buddhism — Focusing on Max Weber’s Proposition and Method

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Abstract

Both Max Weber and Daniel Bell talk about the changes of religious functions in capitalist societies, and the possible solutions to the emergence of cultural contradiction within capitalism. On one hand, their ideas bring the unprecedented challenges to Buddhism that she has ever encountered; on the other hand, Bell’s theory also renders some encouraging effects on the future development of Buddhism.

The challenge as expounded by Weber is, at the time when capitalism falls into crisis and the “religious driving force” starts to decline, whether it is possible for modern Buddhism to make contributions to what Daniel Bell refers to as the “composite religion,” with its distinctive resources and wisdom extracted from its various traditions (for instance, Indian Buddhism and ancient Chinese Buddhism). In light of this, the author of this paper tries to apply Max Weber’s method of “ideal type,” together with Buddhist wisdom on economic ethics throughout history—especially those resources from primitive Buddhism—to reconstruct the Buddhist perspectives of work ethics and consumption ethics.

Keywords: Max Weber, Daniel Bell, Buddhist economic ethics, Buddhist work ethics, Buddhist consumption ethics

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