

The Study on the Concept of Sovereignty

Tang Kimsrui
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The Study on the Concept of sovereignty from Unification Perspectives

I. Introduction

God created human beings as the final step in creating the universe, with purpose for joy. To realize joy, He blessed three great blessings to the first human ancestor to be fruitful (mature and ready to bear fruit), multiply and have dominion over the creation. This implied that God wants human being to become owner and establish Heavenly Kingdom on earth. To rule over the kingdom, there must be power which derived from God. The power to rule over the creatures is God's sovereignty.

God's sovereignty is possible only when His children are fully obeyed and followed. God becomes powerless if people who are supposed to stand as absolute object partner failed to connect to Him. The sovereignty is not only resides with God alone, but it is also dwell in human beings. People will become more powerful, when they fully associated with Creator. Sovereignty is a supreme power of two ways relationship between God and His children, human beings.

II. Unification Theological Perspective on Sovereignty

2.1 Definition of Sovereignty

Sovereignty, according to Stanford Philosophy Dictionary defined as a *supreme authority within a territory*. [1] In this sense, it is more close the notion of political authority. According to Bodin, the true sovereign remains always seized of power. He defined sovereignty as the 'absolute and perpetual power of a commonwealth'. [2] Bodin thought that the power of the state had to be embodied in the prince or other appointed leader and had to be single, unlimited and absolute. Whereas, the modern political theories, in their own plural and contested ways, believe instead that all citizens ought to share equal rights and responsibilities and that the people appointed to offices of power are bound to respect the same rights. According to Thomas Hobbes, an English famous political philosopher stated that sovereign has absolute power to govern and is in no way subject to the citizen. [3] He added that sovereign can be either "this man" or "this assembly of men."

The term "sovereignty" which is the supreme authority, according to Max Weber suggested that the authority would derive from one or the other three sources. The first of these was traditional authority, charismatic and legal-rational authority. [4] In the state, sovereignty is embodied. In the early state's history, the king would hold this authority, while the present state, the people and rulers would hold this authority through constitution. For example, the constitution of the United States of America or unwritten constitution of England has supreme authority over the government or anybody in the country. It is superior to all people of the nation.

However, according to Divine Principle, God created human beings as the final step in creating the universe, with purpose for joy. To realize joy, He blessed three great blessings to the first human ancestor to be fruitful (mature and ready to bear fruit), multiply and have dominion over the creation. This implied that God wants human being to become owner and establish Heavenly Kingdom on earth and have sovereignty over the universe. Unificationists understand that sovereignty is an attribute of God's true love, which manifested by the perfect original human beings (Adam and Eve). They supposed to reach the status of a true elder brother, then to receive blessing become a true husband and to becomes a true father, a true parents with Eve as his wife. They together assume the authority of king and queen in their own family and lineage. In this sense, they rule over the tribe with this supreme authority.

2.2 Origin of the Sovereignty in the time of God's Creation

If we further study on the meaning of creation, there will be a suitable answer regarded to the Creator, God. The relationship between Creator and creature can discover not only the reality of the power of God, but also the nature and destination of man, the value and purpose of universe, the significance of human history, and the reason of human's hope for eternal happy life. The universe reflects the personality of God, especially human beings whom God created in his image. In this sense, the universe becomes God's body and human beings are representing as a place where God shall dwell.

According to Divine Principle, the man was created in the divine image indicated that God had applied the same principle operating within Himself directly in the creation of man and indirectly in the creation of universe. Observing at human beings, they have both spirit and body or the inner self and outer self. Thought, emotion, and will are reflected outwardly in one's facial expression and whole body. The

purpose of God's creation is for joy. For human beings in creating things is also for joy and realization of their desire in response to their Creator.

The Divine Principle clarified that God creates universe and human beings: Adam and Eve and bestows three great blessing upon them, be fruitful, multiply, and to have dominion. In this sense, God wants human beings to reach these great blessings, which in respond God would feel joy as well as human beings would feel the same way. The relationship between God and human beings has been characterized in various ways such as lord and servant, ruler and his subject, master and his slave, and so on. But, according to Unification Theology, this relationship is very personal and deeply inside God's heart of creation is the relationship as parent and children. God will be happy when his children reached full maturity, multiply and dominion over the creature. Whereas, human beings, God's children are going to happy when they obeyed, attended, and had a good relation with God. This is mutual relationship between Creator and creature. The mutual relationship is a give and take action. This action is generating through power of true love. The power of true love can be interpreted as God's sovereignty.

This sovereignty is supposed to root in Adam's family in the time of creation, which Adam and Eve supposed to stand in a position as king and queen to their children. Before reaching the position as king and queen, Adam and Eve supposed to pass some particular formulas such as: eldership, parentship, and finally the kingship. This is God's blue print of his sovereignty over the universe. Due to the fall of the first human ancestors (Adam and Eve), the fall sovereignty have been practice through human history. This sovereignty led by Satan (evil doer).

2.3 The Nature of Sovereignty

According to Unification Principle, the sovereignty is an attribute of the true love manifested by God, and supposed to manifest substantially by first human ancestor, Adam and Eve. They supposed to become true parents, and they would assume the authority as king and queen in their own family and lineage and many generations to come. That is the true sovereignty, which found upon the family perfection. However, Adam and Eve had failed to become as a perfect couple, husband and wife, especially to become a perfect sovereignty of the human beings.

Adam and Eve, each individual has sovereign over himself or herself. It is a world of complete individualism. Unfortunately, some individuals happen to be criminals such as: physical force, violence, rape and murder and so on. In order to protect against this, people enter into an agreement with others for mutual protection. This agreement becomes a covenant, a constitution. By this agreement, a corporate body is created. This corporate body is nothing more than our shared agreement to help each other and live by agreed upon standards. These standards are called laws. However, this agreement was submitted under the principle of self-interest rather than the whole purpose-joy. The agreement, finally lead to the selfishness and hatred one another. The sense of selfishness took place to Archangel, who supposed to serve God and guide Adam and Eve to become a perfect individual and form an ideal family where God can dwell, yet he failed to fulfill his proper position, and tried to dominion over Adam and Eve. Finally, Archangel caused Eve to fall. Then, Eve spread sin to Adam by having unprincipled love, the love without God.

The nature of sovereignty is God's willingness in creating the universe. God creates universe with His full heart of true love. The work of creation is done by God's absoluteness of true love for the joyous. This joy is completed when there is a reciprocal relation between God and His children. He poured out full of His true love to human beings and wants to receive human beings' response of full heart of love. The way of God's authority flow is the way of true love, which it is an unconditional love and absolute and eternal. In this way, God would become almighty. God became powerless when his sovereignty was cut at the time of Adam and Eve's fall because of they didn't obey His commandment, "do not eat the fruit." Not only God alone became powerless, but also Adam and Eve.

Adam and Eve supposed to produce children free of sin, but due to the joint-action with Satan, Adam and Eve committed unprincipled sexual relation, which their decedents were the children of the fall, Satan, and the world came under satanic sovereignty. Satan's power has vastly increased and the number of his evil essence containers has multiplied. Adam and Eve who supposed to become lord of all creation, according to Divine Principle, they must pass through a process of maturation in responsibility to develop self-initiative and self-discipline. They have to grow to secure state which can trust by God.

2.4 Sovereignty in the Providence of Restoration

Every individual is a product of the history of the providence of restoration. Every existing human being is responsible for restoring back the relationship of true love with God and oneself. This restoration is about the restoration of God's sovereignty, which also means that the restoration of human's sovereignty over all things. Sovereignty in the providence of restoration is begun after the fall of first human ancestors: Adam and Eve. In the history of restoration, according to Divine Principle, is the God's work of re-creation. The providence of restoration refers to God's work to restore human beings to our original,

unfallen state so that we may fulfill the purpose of creation.[5]

The history of restoration is to restore God and His children's sovereignty, where had lost at the time of Adam and Eve's fall. This providence begun in Adam's family with Cain and Abel were the central figures. The division of Cain and Abel was a division of God's side and Satan's side. In this stage, Cain represented of Satan supposed to cooperate and obey to Abel who represented at God's side. Cain must have made indemnity condition through offering sacrifice through Abel, yet Cain had killed murdered Abel. Thus, this condition of restoring God's sovereignty in Adam's family was unfulfilled and passed down to next generation, Noah. According to Divine Principle, God intended to complete the providence of restoration in Noah's family by establishing the foundation for the messiah in this family and send messiah on this foundation. Yet due to the fallen act of Noah's second son, Ham, the providence for Noah's family and the ark failed.[6] God has waited for 2,000 years, but as consequence all the foundation was taken away by Satan.

The next stage of providence of restoration was begun from the period of Abraham to Jesus. This period, God's entrust in Abraham, which is to establish foundation of messiah in family level to restore back the last two thousand years providence. This family foundation for messiah is a foundation for upgrading to national level where messiah could come. The period from Abraham to Jesus time was 2,000 years. During this period, according to Divine Principle, God took responsibility as the Creator of human beings and carried out the providence to restore to form a formation foundation, which later Jesus and holy spirit took responsible for establishing a foundation of growth, where Jesus and holy spirit were united centering on God. Based upon this great foundation, after the Coming of Second Advent as True Parents, people on earth are to bear responsibility to defeat Satan. This is the era of people's responsibility to bring back true sovereignty to God and for themselves.

2.5 Sovereignty of True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind

The completion of the providence of restoration was proclaimed by Father, Sun Myung Moon and Mother, Hak Ja Han Moon, the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind on the foundation of God's coronation ceremony on the first day of the first month of the year of 2001, the God's sovereignty has been completely restored. True Parents addressed that: Today, by having God's kingship ceremony, the nation has changed. For the providence, should we be not worried. We need to be the supporting force so that God can do whatever He wants to do.[7] In this circumstance, it clearly pointed out that the responsibility of every individual is counted for the fulfillment of God's sovereignty. It means that people must stand as absolute object of faith for God.

After passing through the great extended of providence of restoration, God sent True Parents of heaven, earth and humankind to this earth to bequeath God's true love, true life, and true lineage to all humankind. Since True Parents of heaven, earth and humankind completely victorious in cosmic: in heaven and on earth through unfathomable sacrificial indemnity and devotion; as such it is the model of life that all people should follow. True Parents of heaven, earth and humankind having perfected, completed and concluded their mission and attained the status of the eternal King and Queen of peace of Cheon Il Guk, on the 13th day of the 1st month by heavenly calendar in the founding year of Cheon Il Guk, they proclaimed Foundation Day, the beginning of Cheon Il Guk in substance.[8]

III. Sovereignty of Cheon Il Guk Constitution

As it is now the age of law and governance, the time has come for us to live centered on the Heavenly Constitution. *True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind.*

Throughout the human's history, government consists of three main branches: the executive, legislative and judiciary. These three branches is concept of the separation of powers dates back to Montesquieu (1689-1755), a leading thinker of the Enlightenment. It sought to prevent the concentration of political power in the hands of a single individual or institution, as was the case with political absolutism.[9] However, Unification Perspective it is not the

same concept as what Montesquieu proposed, it is more concerned about the functions of each branches. According to Cheon Il Guk constitution stated that: the branches of government shall consists of five organs: executive, legislative, judicial, media and finance. For the human society, the economic plays in an important role correspond to the desire of God and promote the welfare to the entire society. The functions are conveyed through True Parents and practice by the citizens of Cheon Il Guk. CIG constitution pointed out that: the sovereignty of Cheon Il Guk for the peaceful ideal world comes from God and True Parents and the sovereignty for the peaceful ideal world is actualized through the citizens of Cheon Il Guk.[10]

Cheon Il Guk constitution is a written constitution in Godist-democratic society, this constitution is the code of law for realizing the three great blessings and establishment of substantial Cheon Il Guk in cosmic level. The Cheon Il Guk constitution provided clear instruction of what the political power is

going to perform, and given clear direction to each branch of political powers such as executive, judicial, legislative, finance, and media on their functions and roles. Cheon Il Guk constitution promulgated centering on God's Word, it will play as the crucial roles to ensure the roles and function of political power for transmitting God-given message to the entire population in society.

3.1 Purpose of Cheon Il Guk Constitution

The main purpose of the constitution is to connect people to their original life's goals: to complete the three great blessings, to inherit God's true love, true life, and true lineage, to unite in love with God and to restore oneself from the fallen nature. It is also for the settlement and managing the Cheon Il Guk. According to Divine Principle, three great blessings, true love, true life and true lineage are originated from the Creator. The three great blessings are fulfilled when the whole creation, including human beings, complete the four position foundation with God as center. This is the Kingdom of Heaven, where ultimate goodness is realized and God feels the greatest joy. This is, in fact, the very purpose for which God created the universe. Human's actions which intended to fulfill the purpose of creation should always base on this principle. God is the origin (center), human beings and natural world or the created things are subject and object partner (division), and the achievement from this give and receive action is an ideal world, Cheon Il Guk (union).

3.2 Sovereignty of Cheon Il Guk Constitution in the Cheon Il Guk Political Power

In general, the political power is the ability to shape and control the political behavior of others and to lead and guide their behavior in the direction desired by the person, group, or institution wielding the political power. To understand the political power, first let's see the term 'power.' In general, power is refer to physical force. The power is usually involved with economic, political, military, and religious power and the power attributed to the press, television, and public opinion. In a case of religious power, Reverend Sun Myung Moon has great power. The power can be for good or bad. There can be suffering, indignity, and unhappiness from the exercise of power, and it also can be suffering, indignity, and unhappiness from the absence of exercising of power. We are familiar with the current development of our society, people are thinking about government should have more power than churches, that secular is more powerful than religious. Satan has tricked practically everyone into believing that the government can do everything. Governments have run in reverse course of its original intention, which is to govern for the fulfillment for the three great blessings of humankind.

In Unification Principle, power is a desire of sharing true love for freedom, peace, harmony, and happiness as brothers and sisters in a global family centering on God and True Parents. For example, Unification Thought said: God created human beings and all things as His object partners of love.[11] In this sense, the power is the force of love from God. Therefore, the political power according to this explanation is the governing of true love to realize the purpose of creation by fulfilling the three great blessings. Reverend Sun Myung Moon wants all people to have God centered power. He has given us the ultimate ideal, which we need to have the power to persuade this world by our words and deeds, so that the world can be in order and peacefully.

What is the origin of power? According to Unification Principle, the origin of power is love. Love originated from God. Human beings are created through the principle of love, and they are meant to live according to the way of the principle. According Divine Principle written that God created human beings with the power of love. God's love is in a subject position to all loves, which in a position of object partner. God governs human beings through true love. This true love as mentioned earlier is God's sovereignty. It spreads out to human society through True Parents of heaven, earth and humankind. This sovereignty use for actualizing Cheon Il Guk through all its citizens.

The government cannot exist without constitution, assemblies, judiciaries, political parties. It also cannot survive without the executive branch to form government policy and insure that it is implemented. That is the potential power which attempted to check for balancing of power within a constitutional framework. The sovereignty of Cheon Il Guk constitution in political power refers to the power of executive, power of legislative, power of judicial, power of finance, and power of media. Technically, the executive is the branch of government that responsible for implementing the policy. The members of the executives can be seen in differences categories as the politicians and civil servants. In the case of which country adopted the parliamentary system, the political executive comprises elected politicians, ministers drawn from and accountable to the assembly: that is to make policy in for the establishment of Cheon Il Guk in cosmic level. The functions of Cheon Il Guk executive as the commanding. According to Cheon Il Guk constitution, the executive carry out policies for the firm establishment and completion of Cheon Il Guk.[12] It also will take responsible for all work pertaining to mission and welfare projects.

The role of legislative branch of government (assembly) is to make law. The functions of the assemblies such as: legislation, representation, scrutiny, political recruitment, and legitimacy. Judiciary is also related to the decision in legal disputes between major institutions of government or between state and state, state and the individual or individual and individual. The role of financial foundation is financially support the

operations of all governmental institutions in the nation. Whereas, the media take responsible for activities related to news reports, public information, and education for people in the nation.

The Unification Principle suggested that the roles and functions of political power should be based on God's true love. Concretely to say, the executive, legislative, and judicial branch of government should carry their roles and functions in accordance with the principle of true love.

The structure of political power, according to Unification Thought could be seen through the pattern after the structure of a perfect human being. The ideal world is to be built by fully mature people is to resemble the structure and functions of a perfect individual. The perfect individual is the unity of mind and body through give and receives action centering on God. The body exists in order to support the overall purpose of the individual person. The brain and central nervous system coordinate body in pursuit of the purpose. The brain and central nervous system is representing as a government who abide by the desire of God and transmitted peace, unification, freedom, and happiness to people in society. Divine Principle stated that: Just as the commands of the brain are transmitted to every part of the body through the peripheral nervous system branching out from the spinal cord, in the ideal world God's guidance is conveyed to the entire society through Christ, who corresponds to the spinal cord, and God-loving leader, who correspond to the peripheral nervous system.[13]

IV. Conclusion

The concept of sovereignty from Unification Perspective is related to God's sovereignty, which originated from the time of His creation. God creates universe through power of true love. The purpose of creation as I had mention earlier is for joy. To receive joy, He needs object partner of love. Thus, He created Adam and Eve, the first human ancestors as His object partners. The relationship between God in creating universe as well as in creating Adam and Eve is the relationship as parent and children.

Sovereignty originated from God. According to Divine Principle, sovereignty exists when God created the universe and human beings, Adam and Eve. God bestows three here great blessings: be fruitful, multiply, and dominion over all things to Adam and Eve. The purpose of God's creation itself is the sovereign, which it is only God and His children are the lord of creation. The nature of sovereignty is God's willingness in creating universe and human beings. He created human beings with all his love, and wants His children response with full heart of love toward Him. This is the way that God shares His sovereignty with His children. The absolute obedience in God is the most suitable way of the eternal joy.

However, due to the fall of the first human ancestors, Adam and Eve; the true sovereignty was lost. God begun His providence of restoration to restore back his sovereignty from Adam's family to Abraham and through to Jesus and finally through the Coming of the Second Advent, the True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind. Having perfected, completed and concluded their missions, they became a way for all human beings to follow to return back to God's true love, true life, and true lineage. Especially, open a way where modeled for people to realize the three great blessings.

God and True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind completely became oneness. Based upon this great foundation, the Cheon Il Guk constitution was constituted. It is a heavenly law for all human beings to attain happiness, unification, peace, and freedom. More importantly, it is a way for realizing Cheon Il Guk substantially. This Cheon Il Guk constitution is the way of life, is the way of managing for establishment of Cheon Il Guk.

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[4]. Peter Joyce, *Understand Politics* (Bookpoint Ltd., UK, 2014) p. 9.

[5]. HSA-UWC, *Exposition of the Divine Principle* (Seoul: Sung Hwa Publishing, 2005), p. 175.

[6]. HSA-UWC, *Exposition of the Divine Principle*, p. 182.

[7]. Reverend Sun Myung Moon, *The Coronation Ceremony of God's Kingship*, Unification News, Vol. 20, p. 5. Under Setting [http://www.tparents.org/UNews/PDF/Unws010102.pdf#search="god coronation ceremony 2000"](http://www.tparents.org/UNews/PDF/Unws010102.pdf#search=) (Accessed on 2014 May 25).

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[9]. HSA-UWC, *Exposition of the Divine Principle* (Seoul: Sung Hwa Publishing, 2005), p. 361.

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[13]. HSA-UWC, *Exposition of the Divine Principle* (Seoul: Sung Hwa Publishing, 2005), 361