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Philosophy

Essay 1

Greek philosophers, namely Thales, Anaximenes, and Anaximander, who were from Miletus's town, attempted to offer solutions to the 'Milesian problem' (Philosophy n.p). Other philosophers like Pythagoreans and Heraclitus put forward other conflicting solutions in addition to their solutions. The Milesian problem entails the puzzle surrounding what the universe is composed of (Geldard n.p). The essay provides various philosophical solutions to the problem. It also avails insights into why the Pythagoreans solution for the problem is the best.

As per the Milesians, natural phenomena were influenced by the anthropomorphized gods' will, and their views contravened existing beliefs on how the world was organized. They believed the world was made up of fire, water, earth, and air. The Milesian thought was more naturalistic than that of Heraclitus as it disregarded the mythological approach towards solving the Milesian problem. On the other hand, Heraclitus believed that the world could not be identified using any particular thing or substance but with a continuous process dictated by a law of change (Geldard n.p). The continuous process is what brings about change as well as a progression that Heraclitus termed as fire. Pythagoreans' solution to the Milesian problem was

that the world was made up of numbers. Mathematics was what built the entire universe, and it can only be understood via mathematical equations.

Pythagoreans offers the best solution out of the three philosophical solutions put forward towards the Milesian problem. Their arguments are verifiable through their equations. Pythagoreans' various mathematical equations have been tested, proven, and universally accepted (Pythagoras n.p). Mathematics exudes more reality and practicability than mythology.

In summary, the Milesian question entails what the world is made up of. Different philosophers have put forward various solutions. Pythagoreans offers the best solution.

Essay 2

Parmenides is an extinguished philosopher commonly known owing to his great arguments of monism. Like any other influential ideas, his views have been discussed by fellow philosophers such as Democritus, Empedocles, and Anaxagoras. The paper compares and contrasts the solutions put across by those philosophers concerning Parmenides' arguments. Parmenides put forward five central doctrines. The ideas that there are no motion, void, generation and destruction, and qualitative change or differentiation forms part of his doctrines (World Biography n.p). Monism was his central doctrine, which revolved around oneness in explanation of existence.

Anaxagoras, Empedocles, and Democritus collectively disagreed with extreme monism and ideas on Parmenides' motion. The duo accepted that there is no coming into existence or destruction. They differed amongst themselves over the idea of no qualitative change or differentiation and avoided. Whereas Empedocles and Anaxagoras disagreed with Parmenides on the idea of no qualitative change, they seemed to have toed the line on the idea of no void.

Democritus agreed with the latter but disagreed on the former (Williams n.p). Both Anaxagoras and Empedocles had similar views on void and generation or destruction. To them, there was no void in earth. They equally alluded that generation or destruction does not exist.

Ontology is the study of being in particular existence, becoming, and reality philosophically. Ontology integrity ascertains that the world is integrated into one through coherency of several things. The solutions of Anaxagoras, Empedocles, and Democritus undermine ontological integrity. Their solutions pluralism towards being or existence and not monism.

In summary, Parmenides's arguments elicited various views. Some philosophers subscribed to his arguments while others dismissed them. However, it is vital to realize that Parmenides's arguments promoted ontological integrity.

Works Cited

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