

**TRANSCENDENTAL PHILOSOPHY AS
CORRELATIONISM: A CRITICAL INVESTIGATION**

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**Transcendental Philosophy as Correlationism: A Critical
Investigation**

by

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Submitted

in fulfillment of the requirement of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

to the



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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the thesis entitled **Transcendental Philosophy as Correlationism: A Critical Investigation** being submitted by **Robin EJ** to the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, for the award of **Doctor of Philosophy**, is a record of bonafide work carried by him under my supervision. In my opinion, the thesis has reached the standards of fulfilling the requirements for submission relating to the degree.

The contents of the thesis have not been submitted in part or full, to any other university or institute for the award of any degree or diploma.

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I dedicate this work to

St. Paul, for his Letters,
Prof. Sanil V and Prof. Madhu TV, my teachers.

“Words, says Kafka, are poor mountain climbers and poor miners. They neither fetch the treasures from the mountains’ top nor mountains’ depth.”

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by

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ABSTRACT

Transcendental philosophy, that is, Kantian philosophy and Husserlian phenomenology, posits the problem of finitude to study human being. According to transcendental philosophy, human being cannot experience and know the world independent of his/her relation to the world. Recently Quentin Meillassoux has criticized these dominant projects of philosophy precisely for their commitment to the problem of finitude. He argues that the description of finitude, as explored by transcendental philosophy, is an oscillation between the ‘Subject’ and the ‘Object’ than a description of each in itself. According to him, transcendental philosophy has also disqualified all attempts to describe subject or object in itself. This thesis in the light of Meillassoux’s criticism examines Kantian philosophy and Husserlian phenomenology, which were the genuine attempts to describe the subject in itself.

This thesis is a critical response to Meillassoux’s criticism that transcendental philosophy is correlationism. This thesis explores the problem of finitude offering perspectives that range from critical philosophy to phenomenological psychopathology and argues that, by showing the relation between phenomenology and psychopathology as a case, transcendental philosophy goes beyond correlationism.

Keywords: critical philosophy; phenomenology; finitude; Thing-in-itself; ontology; correlationism; schizophrenia; *epoché*; critique; translator’s dilemma; sublime; metaphor; first-person perspective; hypnagogic state.

सार

ट्रान्सैडेंटल दर्शन, जो कि कांतियन दर्शन और हुसैरेलियन फेनोमेनोलॉजी है, मानव के अध्ययन के लिए परिमाण की समस्या को प्रस्तुत करता है। ट्रान्सैडेंटल दर्शन के अनुसार, मनुष्य दुनिया से अपने संबंध के बारे में दुनिया को स्वतंत्र और अनुभव नहीं कर सकता है। हाल ही में क्वेंटिन मेलास्सौक्स ने तत्वज्ञान की इन प्रमुख परियोजनाओं की आलोचना की है ताकि उनकी समस्या के प्रति निष्ठा की समस्या उत्पन्न हो सके। उनका तर्क है कि पारगमन दर्शन द्वारा खोजे गए परिमाण का वर्णन, अपने आप में प्रत्येक के विवरण की तुलना में 'विषय' और 'वस्तु' के बीच एक दोलन है। उनके अनुसार, कोरिलेशानिस्म ने भी अपने आप में विषय या वस्तु का वर्णन करने के सभी प्रयासों को अयोग्य घोषित कर दिया है। मेलास्सौक्स की आलोचना के प्रकाश में यह थीसिस कांतियन दर्शन और हुसैरेलियन फेनोमेनोलॉजी की जांच करती है, जो अपने आप में इस विषय का वर्णन करने के लिए वास्तविक प्रयास थे।

यह थीसिस मीलास्सौक्स की आलोचना का एक महत्वपूर्ण जवाब है कि कोरिलेशानिस्म सहसंबंधवाद है। यह थीसिस वित्त-संबंधी दृष्टिकोण की समस्या की पड़ताल करती है, जो आलोचनात्मक दर्शन से लेकर घटना-संबंधी मनोविश्लेषण तक होती है और तर्क देती है कि, एक मामले के रूप में घटना-विज्ञान और मनोचिकित्सा के बीच के संबंध को दर्शाने से, कोरिलेशानिस्म सहसंबंधवाद से परे हो जाता है।

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