**HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE: SUMMARY OF CHAPTER 8**

The success recorded in natural science in the eighteenth and nineteenth century was massive in Europe . Massive to the extent that people started seeking answers and opinions from scientists about topics completely unrelated to science. The response to this was positive because there was a change in the socio-cultural milieu at that time. This is why the belief in science to any issue is known as positivism . The socio-cultural milieu in which positivism grew in is know as the Renaissance and the enlightenment period. It was called the renaissance period because it marked a period when people started a revolution of return to their Greek heritage of using reason to matters of public concern and not the dictate of religion as it was age prior to this time. The aeon prior to the renaissance period was called the dark ages because it was time religious beliefs were seen as supreme. In arts and music were hidden Greek worldwide views as well. This period became known as the classical period of romanticism. Romanticism gave rise to humanism and naturalism and works of art at this time were also regarded as classic. There are a lot of problems with the conception of ideal knowledge . First of this problems is observations upon which the basic justification of positivism came is laden with error. These includes facts that :

1. Observations are concept-laden.
2. Observations are hypothesis-laden
3. Observations are theory-laden
4. Observations are value-laden
5. Observations are interest-laden
6. Observations are laden with culture specific ontologies.

Social science is an area of science dedicated to the explanation of human behavior , interaction and manifestation of as individuals or as a society including institutions. Disciplines in social sciences include : sociology, economics , psychology amongst others . Major sociologists include Karl Max, John Locke and many others. One of the major objectives of social science includes:

1. Understanding humans in both historical and cultural development context and factors responsible for such development of change.

To understand the problems of social sciences there is need to provide casual and correlational connection between an event and its cause. According to this account, for anything to be the cause of another, the cause and effect must :

1. Have a variable or constant relation in the sense that whenever the alleged cause occurs, the effect must also occur.

Francis Offor explains that the principle of cause and effect states that for every event in the universe, there is a set of conditions such that if the conditions are all fulfilled, then the event invariably occurs .

This is the basic summary of chapter eight .