Chapter 1

Artificial Intelligence to Super Artificial Intelligence, Cyber Culture to Transhumanist Culture: Change of the Age and Human

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ABSTRACT

The 21st century is a period in which technological developments constantly present new innovations. This broad spectrum, from computers to mobile technologies, from augmented reality to virtual reality, from wearable technologies to artificial intelligence, is radically changing societies’ economies, education systems, governments, and even cultures. Artificial intelligence studies have reached a point where people discuss how a human-like intelligence would be. This leads to the emergence of systems that regulate the work, daily lives, communications, jobs, and even family budgets of people. These developments also change the living standards and styles of individuals. The cultural texture that technology has restructured is now called “cyber” beyond digital. But how will the future technologies affect this cultural change and what kind of change awaits?

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INTRODUCTION

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Artificial intelligence studies have reached to a point where people discuss how a human-like intelligence would be. This leads to the emergence of systems that regulate the work, daily lives, communications, jobs, and even family budgets of people. These developments also change the living standards and styles of individuals. The cultural texture that technology has restructured is now called “cyber” beyond digital. But how will the future technologies affect this cultural change and what kind of change awaits?

Transhumanism aims at eliminating undesirable or unnecessary aspects of human physical and/or cognitive abilities, such as aging and illness (More, 1990). It is known as an international intellectual and cultural movement suggesting that technology and science should be utilized for this aim. Future is shaped by technology and in the future, a new human-like form invention with its semi-human semi-robot body, as well as an artificial intelligence and improved minds are waiting for us. In this case, the structure of societies will also change and cultural differentiations will be inevitable. Of course, there will be some people who will willingly accept this transformation but there will also be people who will refuse it or do it out of pure need. There will be those who experience this transformation in their body. In addition, there will be those who will support or will be against this experience. The new cultural structure, which will come along with such an era, has already begun to take its shape.

In this study, the predictions of futuristic researchers about how technologies will affect the daily life in the coming years are examined and the effects of these developments on culture are discussed.

From Artificial Intelligence to Artificial Superintelligence

The concept of artificial intelligence, which emerged with the idea of enabling the computers and robots to think, represents the human effort to imitate the human brain, which is considered the most complex structure of the world. Intelligence is the process of thinking, reasoning, perceiving objective facts, comprehension, judgment and conclusion (Uğur and Kınacı, 2006). Artificial intelligence is the intelligence in non-organic systems that can mimic these features. Basically, it works as multi-probability decision-making structures. Artificial intelligence is also known as intelligent machinery and intelligent computer program making science and engineering (Luger, 2002).

The aim of artificial intelligence is to simulate the intelligence of a human being through a computer, to make a decision that is similar to learning to a certain extent, to create a strategy of choice. Artificial intelligence generally consists of methods that aim to model the thinking system of humans, the model/mode of work of the brain or the biological evolution of nature. Especially, techniques to solve real-life problems, which have evolved over the last two decades and cannot be solved intuitively or solved by mathematical techniques, are called artificial intelligence techniques (Russell & Norvig, 2016).

The prominent ones are;

1. Knowledge-based expert system approach
2. Artificial neural networks approach
3. Fuzzy logic approach