

ABSTRACT

Our position : globalisation is the articulation of Asiatic mode of production on a global scale. We work through to this position by analysing Marx's notion of capitalist ground rent as homonym of sign. Analysing, that is reading Marx's texts on ground rent symptomatically. The tools we deploy are Derridian, postmodern.

To unravel ground rent as symptom we start from the equality ordered no surplus economic — commodity and community equality. We show that equality ceases to be a self-sufficient order at the moment of surplus production. Thus, to the question of surplus meanings, supplementation and different class positions — positions of producer and manager / appropriator of surplus. These positions overdetermine each other to constitute a provisional order — an overdetermined order.

But this order, too, has gaps. Gaps signalled by ground rent. Ground rent is symptomatic of the inability of the value-price discursive to accommodate the exterior of the capital-labour overdetermined order—space, the housewife's labour, and so on.

So ground rent is the concept of surplus produced outside the order of capitalism and appropriated by the inside. But ground rent is also the concept which captures surplus appropriation within Asiatic feudalism.

So we go on to a sameness. This sameness, we suggest percolates into the pores and capillaries of global capital in the age of WTO.