

**Thesis Title:** Peisistratus' Economic Leadership Ethics: Lessons for Ghana

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**Abstract**

Peisistratus of Athens' economic leadership ethics promoted socio-economic well-being, particularly for the voiceless, weak, marginalised, poor, and needy. As a result, many scholars, such as Aristotle, considered Peisistratus' regime as the Golden Age. This study examines the socio-politico-economic leadership in Attica from 561 to 527 B.C. in an attempt to generate knowledge from classical scholarship and project insights to inform Ghana's socio-economic leadership ideas. At the theoretical level and by leadership duty, both Peisistratus and Ghanaian leaders prioritised transformational leadership for the common good of all. However, unlike Peisistratus, who achieved and sustained his goals, Ghanaian leaders have yet to achieve theirs. Based on these observations, the study extrapolates lessons from Peisistratus' economic leadership ethics that can help Ghana achieve and sustain its transformative common good ideas.

The study employed a case-based research design using a qualitative approach and multiple sources of data. The methods of analysis involved textual analysis, qualitative content analysis, reader-response criticism, conceptual clarification, and hermeneutic interpretation. Guided by transformational Leadership and the Aristotelian-Thomist Common Good Ethics theories, the study shows that before the emergence of Peisistratus, poor citizens faced socio-economic challenges due to aristocratic control of wealth, land, and harsh policies. To avert these challenges, Peisistratus created equal economic conditions for everyone to flourish. The study further reveals that Peisistratus' leadership ethics sought to promote human flourishing by fostering satisfying human relationships, ensuring social cohesion, and promoting personal worth.

To draw exemplars for Ghana, the study highlights the challenges Ghanaian leaders face in attempting to transform the economy for the benefit of everyone. It suggests that Ghanaian leaders ought to follow Peisistratus' transformational-common good leadership practice and ethics in order to achieve and sustain human flourishing. This study further recommends that Ghanaians and world leaders ought to deliberate and commit to practising economic leadership ethics. Moreover, public leaders and stakeholders ought to cultivate transformational-common good leadership practices and ethics in people under their jurisdiction from an early age. Knowledge-seeking in transformational-common good leadership practices and ethics is crucial as it influences their dedication to discharging duties free of misjudgement, injustice, and overindulgence. By following Peisistratus' economic leadership ethics, leaders can better understand and care for the human person, while prioritising the needs of the vulnerable.