This book combines a thorough introduction to the 19th and 20th work of Vilfredo Pareto, an Italian social theorist. The book provides an English translation to the last monograph by Pareto. It was published initially in 1920 and illustrates why and how democratic forms of governments go through decay and get eventually reinvigorated. More than his generations’ other scientists, he offers an articulate, compelling and well-defined theory of change as based on the Newtonian vision of engineering and science model.

The book has 6 sections; introduction, some sociological laws, the ascending time of religious crisis, decline of old state, rise of new state, and the subjective phenomenon. In this book, Pareto teaches much on the interaction of the elites. In this regard, they arise because of power, maintain their dominance, and later fall. This happens only when another elite is competing to take that place. As per the text, history is the circulation of the elite, and the ideologies presented are not of primary importance. The introduction also gives details about the Pareto’s theory on the circulation of elites.

The exploration distinguishes objective and subjective factors with the latter being psychological states and the former being real objects. In this regard, unbelief and belief are both psychological states. Pareto states that belief is the mark of elite that is rising. In the