

APPOLO STUDY CENTRE

POLITICAL SCIENCE WORK SHEET

Meaning and Scope of Political Science:

- Jean Bodin (1530 - 1596) a French political philosopher coined the term "Political Science". Political science is a branch of social science.
- The great Greek political philosopher, Aristotle (384 - 322 B.C.) was the first thinker to use the term 'politics'. The term "Politics" is derived from the Greek word 'Polis' which means city - state.
- Max Weber in his book "Bureaucracy", Graham Wallas in his book "Human Nature in Politics" and Arthur Bentley in his book "Process of Government" gave an empirical dimension to the study of politics.

Political Science and Economics:

- Adam Smith the father of economics in his book "An Enquiry into the Nature and Courses of Wealth of Nations" also considered economics as an important branch of political science. It was called political economy.

STATE:

Definition:

- Aristotle said man is a social animal and by nature he is a political being. To him, to live in the state and to be a man were identical.

- The modern term “state” is derived from the word “status”. It was Niccolo Machiavelli (1469 – 1527) who first used the term “state” in his writings. His important work is titled as “Prince”.
- To Woodrow Wilson, “State is a people organized for law within a definite territory.”
- Aristotle defined the state as a “union of families and villages having for its end a perfect and self – sufficing life by which it meant a happy and honourable life”.

Elements of the State



- According to Aristotle, the number should be neither too large nor too small. Rousseau determined 10,000 to be an ideal number for a state.

SOVERIGNITY:

- It was Jean Bodin who developed for the first time the theory of sovereignty systematically in his book “Six Books on the Republic”.

MEANING, NATURE AND DEFINITIONS:

- The concept of “sovereignty” was developed in conjunction with the rise of the modern state. The term Sovereignty is derived from the Latin word Superanus which means supreme. The father of modern theory of sovereignty was Jean Bodin (1530 – 1597) a French political thinker.

- Jean Bodin defined sovereignty as “absolute and perpetual power of commanding in a state. It is supreme power over citizens and subjects unrestrained by law”.

There are two aspects of sovereignty

- a. Internal sovereignty
 - b. External sovereignty
- Internal sovereignty means that the sovereign is the supreme authority over the individual and associations, within its territory. External sovereignty means that the sovereign is an independent entity, free from alien rule or control, in its conduct with other states and international organization.

Kinds of Sovereignty:

1. Titular Sovereignty:

- By titular sovereignty we mean sovereignty by the title only. It refers to the sovereign powers of the king or monarch who has ceased to exercise any real authority.

2. De Facto and De Jure Sovereignty:

De facto sovereignty indicates to a sovereign who without legal support or constitutional support enjoys sovereign power. De jure sovereign is recognized by law or the constitution, but not in position to practice its power.

3. Legal and Political Sovereignty:

Legal sovereign has following characteristics

1. The legal sovereignty is always definite and determinate.

2. Legal sovereignty may reside either in one person or in a body of persons.
3. It is definitely organized, precise and known to law.
4. Rights of citizen are gift of legal sovereign.

4. Popular Sovereignty:

- When the sovereignty resides in the people of the state it is called as popular sovereignty. This theory was expounded by Rousseau, when later became the slogan of French Revolution.

AUSTIN'S THEORY OF SOVEREIGNTY (MONISTIC VIEW):

- In the 19th century the theory of sovereignty as a legal concept was perfected by Austin, an English Jurist. He is regarded as a greatest exponent of Monistic Theory. In his book 'Province of Jurisprudence Determined (1832) Austin observed'
- Austin's theory of sovereignty depends mainly upon his view on nature of law. According to Austin "Law is a command given by a superior to inferior"

PLURALIST THEORY OF SOVEREIGNTY:

- Laski says that sovereignty is neither absolute nor a unity. It is pluralist, constitutional and responsible. State has no superior claim to an individual's allegiance. It can justify itself as a public service corporation. State exists to coordinate functions of human association in the best interest.

CONSTITUTION :

- For Aristotle "constitution is the way in which, citizens who are the component parts of the state are arranged in relation to one another".

- According to Woolsey, a constitution “the collection of principal according to which the powers of the government rights of the government and relations between the two are adjusted.”

A constitution is needed for a variety of reasons

1. To curb the powers of the government by fundamental law.
2. To protect the rights of individuals
3. To establish the principle of ‘rule of law’.
4. To save the state from anarchy.
5. To define the operation of the sovereign power of the state.
6. To limit the vagaries of present and future generations.

Aristotle’s Classification of Constitution:

1. Rule by one – Monarchy – Tyranny
2. Rule by few – Aristocracy – Oligarchy
3. Rule by many – Polity – Democracy

AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION:

- It indicates towards the procedure of amendment of the constitution. A written constitution must have procedure for amending the constitution and it is regarded as an essential part of every written constitution.
- The method of amendment only guarantees application and sanctity of the constitution. It is upon the method of amendments that guarantees of individuals liberty and the adaptability of the constitution depends.
- The method of amendment may be simple or may be a Complex and difficult procedure. It is simple and enables the political sovereign to express its will, there can be no conflict between the actual conditions and legal organization. But an easy method of amendment may lead

to instability. If the constitution is having difficult method of amendment it may result in one of the two things.

I. EVOLVED AND ENACTED CONSTITUTIONS:

- An evolved constitution is the result of the growth of rules, which have been developed with the time, added one by one as and when the need was felt.
- The enacted constitution is the result of the deliberate effort of man. It is consciously made. It may be made by a constituent assembly or by the command of sovereign authority, king or parliament.

II. WRITTEN AND UNWRITTEN CONSTITUTION:

- A **written constitution** is normally supposed to mean a document or a collection of documents in which the basic rules regarding the main organs and institutions of government are clearly laid down.
- The constitution of India was formulated and adopted by the constituent assembly.
- The constitution of USA was drafted by a special convention of delegates, presided over by George Washington. This constitution emerged out of the Philadelphia convention on September 17, 1787, and was referred to the States for their ratification.
- An **unwritten constitution** reflects the evolutionary nature of free documentation of the rules and regulations. First they are practiced and by a continuous practice, they become part of the construction. The constitution of Britain is the best example of an unwritten constitution.

III. FLEXIBLE AND RIGID CONSTITUTION:

- In a **flexible constitution** there is no distinction between ordinary law and constitutional law. Both are enacted in the same way and their source is also same.
- They are amended in the same way. No special procedure is required for amending the ordinary or constitutional law. The constitution of Britain is a classic example of a flexible constitution. Parliament in Britain is sovereign.
- **Rigid constitutions** are those, which require a special procedure for the amendment. The constitutions of USA, Australia and Switzerland are the example of a rigid constitution.
- The rigid constitution is above the ordinary law and can be changed by a procedure, which is different from the procedure of ordinary law, thus making it difficult to change.

ADULT SUFFRAGE:

Theories of the Nature of Suffrage:

- One important role player in democracy is the electorate. Electorate consists of the voting public. This voting right is also referred to as suffrage or franchise. Voting is a political right given to any eligible citizen.

Age Qualification:

- Age is definitely one factor, which brings in maturity of thinking among and individual. So in no county, are children given the right to vote. However, the minimum age required for franchise varied between 18 and 21. In India, originally 21 years of age was prescribed for franchise. But later, in 1988, it was reduced to 18.

TYPES OF VOTE

1. One man One vote:

- Under this provision every other is entitled for one and only one vote. The voter can cast his vote in favour of any candidate.

2. Single Transferable vote:

- In this system, which is designed for multimember constituency, the voter possesses only one vote. But he can make his priority like 1,2,3, etc, according to his requirement.
- If a candidate fails to secure a majority, the votes polled for him will be reallocated according to the second choice, and then third choice, until a clear majority is obtained by a candidate. In India, election of the President, and members of Rajya Sabha are held on the single transferable vote method.

3. Plural Voting:

- According to this system, several qualifications are prescribed for the right to vote such as payment of property tax and education.
- A person who owns property or is a tax payer or is educated is eligible for a vote, because he possesses all of these qualifications.
- At the same time, a person who is educated, possess property and is a tax payer, is entitled for three votes.
- A voter is entitled for one vote for every qualification he possesses. In Belgium, this method was used earlier.

4. Open Ballot:

- Under this system, the voters raise their hands to support a candidate. Montesquieu advocated this system because, seeing

intelligent people raise their hands for a right candidates, the uneducated man would also support him.

5. Secret Ballot:

- In this system the voter casts his vote in favour of a candidate, without the knowledge of another person. A voter can exercise his franchise without fear. In polling station, an enclosure is provided for him to mark his vote and put the ballot in the ballot box. The ballots are mixed and nobody can identify the exact vote polled by any voter. This method is adopted in most of the countries in the election to their legislature. In India also only secret ballot method is used for elections to the state legislative assemblies and parliament.

CITIZENSHIP:

- The state is a political organization with the established government for the welfare of the people. In other words, welfare of the citizen.
- In Political science parlance, a citizen means, a person who belongs to and is a member of the state and who enjoys social and political rights.

Citizenship is of two types

1. Naturalized citizenship and
2. Acquired citizenship.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION:

- The fundamental principle of proportional representation is, every section of the society will get representation in the parliament, in proportion to their population.
- Different minorities, who otherwise will go without representation, will get representation according to their strength in numbers.

- The main purpose of proportional representation is to secure a representative assembly reflecting with more or less mathematical exactness of the various divisions in the electorate.

DEMOCRACY:

Meaning and Definition:

- In the words of Abraham Lincoln, democracy is a government “of the people, by the people, and for the people.”
- “Democracy comes from the Greek words **demos** meaning ‘People’ and **kratos** meaning ‘authority’ or ‘power.’”

DIRECT DEMOCRACY:

- In a direct democracy, all citizens, without the intermediary of elected or appointed officials, can participate in making public decisions. Such a system is clearly only practical with relatively small numbers of people in a community organization to tribal council, for example, or the local unit of a labor union, where members can meet in a single room to discuss issues and arrive at decisions by consensus or majority vote.
- Ancient Athens, the world’s first democracy, managed to practice direct democracy with an assembly of as many as 5,000 to 6,000 persons. In Switzerland direct democracy is followed even at the national level.

INDIRECT DEMOCRACY:

- Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives.
- The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this shall be expressed in periodic and genuine election

that shall be held by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or the equivalent free voting procedures. **India** is the best example of a representative democracy.

Devices of the Direct Democracy:

- As noted elsewhere democracy is of two kinds. One is direct democracy and the other is indirect democracy. The chief direct democratic devices are :
 1. Initiative
 2. Referendum
 3. Recall
 4. Plebiscite
- The devices are followed by Switzerland, which practices direct democracy. They are followed in some other countries also. However, they have not been successful.

HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMORACY:

- The declaration of Human Rights states, “All human being are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.
- On 10 December 1948, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which has become a universal standard for defending and promoting human rights.
- Every year on 10 December, Human Rights Day marks the adoption of the Universal Declaration.

POLITICAL PARTIES

Evolution of Political Parties:

- A party is an organization for collective life. Indeed organized society alone is a party. Political party system is a modern phenomenon. It is less than 200 years old.

Need for Political Party:

- Representative government and representative institution require the existence of political parties. Parties provide link between the citizens and government, and between electorate and the representative institutions.
- Political parties can be classified into four groups according to their aims, policies and the method adopted by them to achieve their goals. They are,
 1. Conservatives
 2. Liberals
 3. Reactionaries
 4. Radicals

The other major classification of parties is based on:

1. The number of parties dominating the political scene one party, two party or multiparty.
2. The main structure and characteristics of the party-charismatic leader-oriented party, ideology-oriented party and interest oriented party.
3. The geographical area of influence and penetration. (especially in a feudal polity)- that is national party, trans-regional party, regional party and local party.
4. Four fold types of party structure suggested by Maurice Duverger- the caucus, the branch, the cell and the militia.

1. SINGLE PARTY SYSTEM:

- A single party system is a system in which there will be only one political party in a country. The law of the land will not allow rivals. The Russian Revolution in the beginning of 20th century was the main cause for the emergence of single party system. Best example for this system is communist China.

2. TWO PARTY SYSTEM:

- The two party system is the one in which there will be two political parties one is the ruling party and the other is the opposition party, example of two party systems are,
 1. England - There are two parties in England the conservative party and Labour party.
 2. U.S.A - The Democratic Party and the Republican Party.

3. MULTI PARTY SYSTEM:

- Cleavages in social structures and differences in nationalities and regions in a state cause the emergence of multiparty system. A multiparty system is the one in which there will be more than parties in a state. For example, India and France are the best example of multiparty system.

INTEREST GROUPS:

- In almost all liberal democracies, there are several organized groups representing the various interests of its citizens. They interact among themselves and with the government. The presence and role of specific interest groups augment and supplement the role and purposes of the political parties. They are the part of a wider political process.
- While parties are formal, open and are recognized part of the political system competing for power the interest groups are informal, often secretive, concealed and conspirational and sometimes even unrecognized entities.

- Pro. Finer refers to them as “ anonymous empire” others have called them “invisible government” and “unofficial government”

PUBLIC OPINION:

- Public opinion plays a vital role in modern democracy. Infact democracy has been defined as government by public consent or government responsive to public opinion. Even in dictatorship, government attaches much importance to public opinion. Public is defined as the expression of all those members of a group who are given attention in any way to a given issue. Opinions maybe reflected in an election, a policy decision or formal legislative enactment.

Conditions Necessary for Public Opinion:

1. Peoples capacity to think
2. Interest of people in national problem
3. Formation of groups
4. Initiative by political leaders.
5. Role of writers.
6. Homogeneity and community interest.

Election Commission:

- An election commission has been set up to perform three functions of ‘superintendence, direction and control’ of election. It is responsible for preparation, revision and updating of the electoral rolls from time to time. It conducts election to parliament and state legislature as well as to the office of the President and the Vice President of India (Article 324).
- It consists of the Chief Election Commissioner and a few other election commissioners whose membership is determined and fixed from time to time by the President of India.

- They are appointed by the President for a fixed term of five years. Their tenure and service conditions are laid down by the parliament and cannot be changed during the term of office.
- The Chief Election Commissioner cannot be removed from office, except on the ground and in the manner on which the Supreme Court judge can be removed. This is to protect him from undue interference of executive and legislature.
- A branch of Election Commission exists in each state headed by a Chief Election Officer appointed by the Chief Election Commissioner in - consultation with the state government.
- The number of members of Election Commission is limited but at the time of elections necessary officers and staff are drawn from other departments of the government. Eg: government departments and educational institutions.

POLITICAL PARTIES:

- In terms of geographical spread there are four types of parties. They are national parties, regional parties, trans-regional parties and local parties.

NATIONAL PARTY:

- Since the second general elections to LOKSABHA in 1957, Election Commission of India has recognised several parties as national parties, on the formula that they should have secured not less than 4% of total valid votes in the previous general election, atleast in four states.

Recently, a Party to be recognised as National party if it satisfies the condition of

1. A party wins 2% of seats in the Lok Sabha (11 seats) From at least 3 different states.

2. At a General election to Lok Sabha or Legislative Assembly, the party polls 6% of Votes in four states and in addition it wins 4 Lok sabha Seats
3. A party gets recognition as state party in four or more states.

Totally National parties in India. (8)

1. Indian National Congress Party,
2. Bharatiya Janatha Party,
3. All India Trinamool Congress
4. Bahujan Samaj Party
5. Nationalist Congress Party
6. National Peoples Party
7. Communist party of India (CPI) and
8. Communist party of India (CPM)

REGIONAL PARTY:

- The emergence of regional parties in India has a geo-political rationale. Under conditions of democratic culture there are socio economic and ethnic diversities, which are specific to different regions in India.
- Examples are Assam, Nagaland, Mizorm, Punjab, Orissa, Andhrapradesh and Tamilnadu. Each of these regions with a regional outfit seeks and aspires for political autonomy. These outfits press for the development of their region in a federation like India.

CASTE PARTY:

- Generally people are divided into groups on the basis of area, profession, caste, community, religion and race. Sometimes they are divided on the basis of colour of the skin.

- In India people belong to various groups. Caste is one such group. This kind of division of the people is found mostly in India only. There are several caste groups throughout India. The main reason for this is to be found in the varnarshra dharma of the Hindu religion.
- In Tamilnadu also there are many caste parties, which exert influence on major political parties for getting the things they wanted. This is the sum total of a caste party.

COMMUNAL PARTY:

- A party political or otherwise formed on the basis of communal feelings and beliefs is known as a communal party. Like the caste party, communal party has its origins in the division of people or the society on grounds of caste distinctions.
- The motive behind the formation of a communal party is to secure some benefits from the major communities and also from the government of the country. Communal parties are always selfish and partisan. They generally act against the interest of other groups and therefore not supported by parties, which do not have faith in race, religion and colour of the people. Communal parties should not be encouraged as they are against national spirit.

DIRECTOR'S COPY

THE STATE AND ITS ELEMENTS

Definition

Woodrow Wilson:

- “State is a people organized for law within a definite territory.”

Aristotle:

- Aristotle defined the state as a “union of families and villages having for its end a perfect and self-sufficing life by which it meant a happy and honourable life”.

Holland:

- The state is “a numerous assemblage of human beings generally occupying a certain territory amongst whom the will of the majority or class is made to prevail against any of their number who oppose it.”

Burgess:

- Defines the state as “a particular portion of mankind viewed as an organized unit.”

Garner:

- “State is a community of people occupying a definite form of territory free of external control and possessing an organized government to which people show habitual obedience.

Laski:

- “State as a territorial society divided into government and subjects whose relationships are determined by the exercise of supreme coercive power.”

Prof, Elliot:

- “Territorial sovereignty or the superiority of state overall within its boundaries and complete freedom from external control has been a fundamental principle of the modern state life”.

Prof. Earnest Barker:

- Prof. Earnest Barker in his book entitled “Principles of Social and Political Theory” clearly brings out the difference between state and society under three headings. They are,
 1. Purpose or function
 2. Organisation and structure
 3. Method

Justice Hughes:

- “We are under a constitution, but the constitution is what the judges say it is”.

Functions of Judiciary:

- Administration of Justice.
- To determine what is law and what is scope and meaning of it.
- To give advisory opinion on matters referred to it.
- To issue orders or writs for the purposes of preventing violation of rights and laws.
- To act as guardian of the constitution.

The Concept of Sovereignty

Introduction

Aristotle:

- We find that the term sovereignty is the product of modern political thinking but the idea goes back to the time of Aristotle who referred to it as the “supreme power” of the state.

Jean Bodin:

- Jean Bodin who developed for the first time the theory of sovereignty systematically in his book “Six Books on the Republic”.

Jean Bodin:

- Jean Bodin defined sovereignty as “absolute and perpetual power of commanding in a state. It is supreme power over citizens and subjects unrestrained by law”.

Laski:

- According to Laski sovereign is “legally supreme over any individual or group. It possesses supreme coercive power.”

Austin:

- “If a determinate human superior, not in the habit of obedience to a like superior, receives habitual obedience from the bulk of a given society that determinate superior is sovereign in that society and that society (including superior) is a society political and independent.” To Austin in every state there exists an authority to whom a large mass of citizen show compliance. This authority is absolute, unlimited and indivisible.

Aristotle

- “Constitution is the way in which, citizens who are the component parts of the state are arranged in relation to one another”.

IMPORTANT BOOKS

PLATO	"Republic"
ARISTOTLE	"Politics"
ROUSSEAU	"Social Contract"
MAX WEBER	"Bureaucracy"
MACHIAVELLI	"Prince"
LASKI	"A Grammar of Politics"
HOBBS	"Leviathan"
MARX	"Das Capital"
MARX & ENGELS	"Manifesto of Communist"
GUNAR MYRDAL	"Asian Drama"
ADAM SMITH	"Wealth of Nation"
MONTES QUIEG	"Spirit of Laws"
A.V.DICEY	"Rule of Law"
J.S.MILL	"On Liberty"