

NEXT IAS

CSE (MAINS) TEST SERIES - 2024

(To be filled by candidate)

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Exam Centre : Old Rajinder Nagar ☐

Online ☒

Test-05

POLITICAL SCIENCE &
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Dated : 28-07-2024

Time Allowed : Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

(Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions)

There are **EIGHT** questions. Candidate has to attempt **FIVE** questions in all.

Question no 1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining **THREE** are to be attempted. Among these **THREE** questions, one should be from each section.

Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission certification which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-cum-Answer (QCA) booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.

Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.

Attempts of questions shall be counted in chronological order. Unless struck off, attempt of a question shall be counted even if attempted partly. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the answer book must be clearly struck off.

(For filling by Examiners only)

Q. No.	Page No.	Max. Marks	Marks	Total	Signature
1. (a)	4	10			
1. (b)	6	10			
1. (c)	8	10			
1. (d)	10	10			
1. (e)	12	10			
2. (a)	14	15			
2. (b)	17	15			
2. (c)	20	20			
3. (a)	24	15			
3. (b)	27	15			
3. (c)	30	20			
4. (a)	34	15			
4. (b)	37	15			
4. (c)	40	20			
5. (a)	44	10			
5. (b)	46	10			
5. (c)	48	10			
5. (d)	50	10			
5. (e)	52	10			
6. (a)	54	15			
6. (b)	57	15			
6. (c)	60	20			
7. (a)	64	15			
7. (b)	67	15			
7. (c)	70	20			
8. (a)	74	15			
8. (b)	77	15			
8. (c)	80	20			
Grand Total					

Remarks

Observations:

SECTION-A

Write the following question in about 150 words.

Q.1 (a)

In the pursuit of Justice, Plato sacrificed the individual's liberty-comment

(10 marks, 150 words)

Plato is called as the father of political philosophy. His most important work "Republic" aims to establish just state (ideal state).

Plato was an idealist. He want to establish just state i.e. absolute justice. Only when state is ruled by philosopher king (who is man of reason) can establish a just state or justice.

Philosopher king of plato has absolute powers. No one can question him, because he has the absolute knowledge of world of ideas. People are like the children of state.

Similarly, the other class of citizens are soldier class and producer class are fixed to their assigned role. They cannot participate in political sphere.

As a result, this compromised liberty. Karl Popper calls Plato as enemy of open society. He is not open to falsification. He has even ended Socrates tradition of Dialectics.

Plato has committed guilt of historicism, guilt of holism and guilt of essentialism. Whole is prior to part, the individual liberty is sacrificed for common good. This criticised as totalitarian.

However, every thinker it child of his times (Clark). Plato's theory were the result of the crisis of the time of Ancient Greece. Emerson says, Plato is philosophy and philosophy is Plato.

Q.1 (b)

Discuss the Role of religion in politics in Machiavelli's political thoughts.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates
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Though contested, Machiavelli is considered as the first modern thinker because he was ~~great the first~~ first talked about Nation State.

Machiavelli's book "Prince" is one of the finest book written on Statecraft. In this book he talks about his ideas on Religion.

Machiavelli took more utilitarian view of Religion. He advises Prince that though in personal sphere he may not be religious, but in ~~personal~~ public sphere, it is advisable for the Prince to be religious.

Machiavelli understood the utility of religion. Since history, it is an effective tool to control

people and establish social order. So religion allows the Prince to control people and maintain law & order.

Machiavelli was against church (and not religion). Church at that time was corrupt and leading to chaos and confusion (theory of two swords).

He advocated for separation of church and state thus establishing idea of nation state (first model of European secularism). But he viewed religion as a tool of statecraft.

Schne criticise him for being narrowly dated and narrowly based.

But as per Joseph Cantor, Machiavelli promotes political amorality and advocates political immorality.

Q.1 (c)

Significance of Behavioural revolution in political science

(10 marks, 150 words)

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David Easton is called as the father of Behaviouralism.

Behaviouralism emerged out of a historical context of decline of political theory during the world wars. To address the decline, David Easton came with Behaviouralism which he called Behavioural revolution, because of change in method, and scope of political science.

It was an attempt to make political science as pure science by incorporating scientific methods like empiricism, experiments, data collections, verification etc.

It also broadened the scope of political science. It

included under its ambit, the scope of "electoral behaviour", system analysis of political system.

Behaviouralism helped in broadening the scope of comparative politics to study the post colonial political systems eg: structural-functional analysis of Gabriel Almond & Powell.

However, due to the neglect of study of political values it led to second decline during 1960s. It was criticised as 'Naïve scientism' and paradox of political science.

Thus, David Easton came up with post behaviouralism in his 'Credo of relevance', restoring political theory and balancing values with empiricism.

Q.1 (d)

Trace the political ideological components in Dharmashastra. (10 marks, 150 words)Candidates
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Dharma shastra belonged to the tradition of Dharma which is part of the ancient Indian political thought.

The core idea of concern in Dharmashastra is Dharma. Dharma means to hold, it holds the society together. without dharma, there will be Anarajakta (chaos).

The political ideological components of Dharmashastra is mentioned in Manusmriti (by Manu).

Society should be arranged in Varnashrama system, where society is hierarchically divided into Brahmana, Kshatriya, Vaishya, Shudra.

The duty of the king (State) is to uphold Dharma, by ensuring

and people follow Varna System. In this context provision of Danda is also there

The king is of divine personality but he has no divine authority (unlike west). King is also under Dharma and has to follow Raj'dharma.

King has to ensure Rakshana (protection of its people), Palana (care of debtors) and Yogkshem (attainment of Purusharthas).

Mandukya has also given quasi-constitutional theory of state. He has given graded system of punishment (according to Varna). This criticised by Dr. Ambedkar for perpetuating caste inequality.

However, Dr. Radhakrishnan has said Mandukya as great intellectual workpiece.

Q.1 (e)

Aristotle was a genuine Platonist Comment

(10 marks, 150 words)

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Aristotle is known as the father of political science. He is also one of the greatest disciple of Plato as well as critic of Plato.

Aristotle ideas and theories are developed in response or in continuity with Plato theories.

Both belonged to the Ancient Greek city state, whose aim was to solve the political crisis of the time of Greece. (disciple of Plato)

However, Plato was idealist and Aristotle was both idealist and materialist (Golden mean). Plato was Radical and Aristotle was conservative (critic of Plato).

Against Plato's theory of ~~justice~~ Ideas, Aristotle gave his theory

of form and causation - Plato says
idea is only real, but Aristotle says
both idea and matter are real.

Aristotle has given his theory
of property against Plato's idea of
communism of property. Plato believes
in Philosopher King as ideal state
(best state), but Aristotle believes
in (polity) as best state (golden
mean of Aristocracy and democracy).

Both belonged to the organic
state tradition (Socratic tradition)
and belonged to same age and place.

Thus, Aristotle was a genuine Platonist
in the sense that his works in
continuity of Plato's works (though
different) to correct him.

Karl Popper - One can be anti-platonic
or pragmatic but can never be aplatonic

Q.2 (a)

How did Sir Syed Ahmed Khan's advocacy for scientific education and his critique of social practices contribute to the modernization of Indian society?

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(15 marks, 200 words)

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan is one of the most influential and modern-thinkers whose ideas were important for social reform of the Muslim community in particular and Indian society in general.

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan belonged to the historical context when Muslim community was facing backwardness and there was stagnation. He found the orthodox tradition, customs and rituals and absence of scientific temperament as the reason behind backwardness.

He in his work has highlighted the importance of western and scientific education in modern

lines that can bring reform in the muslim community.

He favoured development of scientific temperament through education and promote modern thinking that can address the decline of the society. It can bring the muslim community out of traditionalism and orthodox society.

He tried to bring reform in Islam. He propagated to have a science book in one hand and a book of religion in another.

As a result, these reforms would bring social equality, liberty and empowerment of the downtrodden section of the society.

Even today, we need leaders like him for modernization of Indian society. eg: Sachar Committee report has highlighted the backwardness and vulnerability of the muslim sections.

For his attempt to modernize Muslim Community and Reform Islam, he was criticised by conservationist section of the society. He also sought help of the British, to bring such reform (for which he is also criticised by the Nationalist).

However, he was pragmatist who sought the help of British to bring ~~so~~ social reforms which contribute to the modernisation of Indian society.

Q.2 (b)

Discuss the Marxian concept of property. Also explain how it is related to alienation of human beings. (15 marks, 200 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin

Marxism is a scientific theory of socialism given by Karl Marx on true understanding of history (historical materialism), whose final goal is to establish communism.

Marx has given a detailed theory on property through his critic of capitalism in his work "Das Kapital".

According to Marxism, private property is the source of inequality in society. Property gives rise to class conflicts (contradictions), which he called dialectical materialism.

Through his understanding of society as Base and Superstructure model, we can understand

Economic Structure as the base structure.
Economic structure determines the social structure.

Hence, every social relation that man have is basically economic relations. Thus, Marx says, class consciousness is the true consciousness.

Every man participate in society either as owner (owner of property) or have not (not owning property). This give rise to classes in society, which determines every other structures of the superstructure. Thus property is the source of inequality and class conflict which ultimately lead to revolution (when contradictions come to the surface)

Marx in his work "Economic and philosophical manuscript" has given the concept of alienation.

According to Marx, Capitalism leads to alienation of man. As it takes away the essence of man. Essence of man is that he is productive and serves by nature.

Capitalism distances man from his product of labour, process of production and he remains mere a cog in the wheel of a large Capitalist system of private production. As a result, man is alienated from his labour, which is not only source of his exploitation but also source of unhappiness.

The relevance of Marxist concept of capitalism and property is that it ~~it~~ make capitalism humane.

Q.2 (c)

Examine how Plato's communism serves as a supplementary mechanism designed to support and reinforce the spirit that education aims to create. (20 marks, 250 words)

Candidates
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Plato is known as father of political philosophy. Plato most important work "Republic" main aim is to establish ideal state which is just state.

According to Plato, Justice is architectonic in nature. It means when there is proper placement, functional specialisation, non-interference of all the elements (Rulers, soldiers, producers) it will lead to just state.

Just state is ruled by Philosopher King. Philosopher king is man of reason (man of gold). To find man of gold, he gave his theory of education.

His theory of education was primary mechanism to

establish Just State. Through education (lifelong education), he could find out men with different spiritual quality. He could separate men of copper from men of silver from men of gold.

Finally through the lifelong education, who passes all the tests of education emerges as the man of reason who is fit to rule as philosopher king.

However, Plato was an idealist. He did not want to take any risk. He knew that if philosopher king is man of reason, he is also having passions and desires. So in this context he developed his theory of communism as a supplementary mechanism to just state, which supports and reinforces his theory of

education.

According to ~~theory~~ of communism, philosophers being or the guardian class will not have any private property.

Since private property leads to corruption, hence communism of property will have philosophers being from being corrupt.

As the guardian class will have common property and they will live a life of communism.

Similarly, he gave the theory of communism of family. Where, they will not have any particular wives and husbands, their children will be taken by the state and no will know their own children.

Communion of wives will save ruling class from nepotism, which can be a deterrent against ideal state.

However, he has been criticised by Aristotle for his theory of communion. According to Aristotle, both property and family are time tested institutions and source of utility. He called communion of family will lead to barbaric times and advocated for private property but common use.

Since every thinker is a child of his times (asked), thus, Plato gave his theory of communion to suit the needs of his time i.e. to establish just state, when the Ancient Greece was going through turmoil.

Q.3 (a)

JS Mill's view on Liberty disqualifies him from being a true Democrat.

(15 marks, 200 words)

Candidates
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It is said that if anyone who is liberal, it is JS Mill. Because no one before him and no one after (except Isiah Berlin) had done a detailed study on Liberty.

JS Mill in his book "On Liberty" has given his view on Liberty. According to him, Liberty is a common good, it promotes human condition. The most important liberty is freedom of speech and expression.

In this context, he has given his concept of harm principle which will act as limitation of exercising his liberty. But his harm principle is criticised since for being "prophet of empty

liberty and shadow of abstract individualism

Through his concept of harm principle (self regarding and other regarding actions) he has allowed the scope of intervention by state. Today, man is not just an atomistic individual rather situated self (communitarian). Thus any self regarding action can be other regarding which attract state intervention.

This can curb liberty of individual thus called as "prophet of empty liberty"

his view of liberty and harm principle also extends to his view of democracy. He was apprehensive of turning democracy into mobocracy.

As a result he brought element of elitism like plural voting system, weighted voting system in the western democracy, so that the educated property owning people have greater say in democracy.

Similarly, he was not in favour of allowing democracy in the colonies (Switzerland). According to him democracy is not for barbarians. This can be understood through his starm principle (where all the actions of the people can be clubbed into other regarding) giving scope for benevolent despotism.

For this he was criticised as Reluctant democrat. But he was at the crossroad of modern liberalism and classical liberalism and he should be given benefit of doubt.

Q.3 (b)

Discuss the significance of political theory in investigating and solving political problems.
(15 marks, 200 words)

Candidates
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Political theory is a systematic branch in political science which provides a rational systematic insight on political issues. (Liberty, justice, equality).

According to David Easton study of political system, the main function of political system is authoritative allocation of values. Values like liberty, justice, which can be distributed in the society through political theory.

According to Leo Strauss, the crisis of the present times is the crisis of political theory. He has criticised David Easton's behaviouralism for neglecting study of values in political science.

Behaviouralism has led to the second decline in political theory. This is evident from the new social movements in America like black movement, new feminist movement demanding for justice.

Thus, political theory allows us to systematically study of such distribution of values in society which can address the crisis of the society.

Since Ancient Greece, Plato theory of justice aims to establish Ancient Greek more just, because it was facing the problem of corruption and injustice.

Aristotle, theory of revolution to understand justice and inequality.

to further prevent society from instability. All such problems of the societies are addressed through political theory.

In the more current context, the theory of justice by John Rawls which gives the principle of difference (difference principle) is necessary in Indian society for social justice (affirmative action policies).

Similarly, Amartya Sen and Dr. Ambedkar capacity approach and offsetting brute luck to promote equality in society.

It is true that every political theorist is a part scientist and part philosopher (Andrew Hacker), to solve every state crisis of

Q.3 (c)

Analysing the impact of different streams of feminism on the broader feminist movement, examine how their diversities and conflicts have enriched the discourse on gender equality and women's rights. (20 marks, 250 words)

Candidates
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Feminism is a meta narrative, there are different streams of feminism from liberal feminism to radical feminism to differentiated (3rd wave feminism)

The main aim of feminism is to promote gender equality and advocate for women's rights (women empowerment).

Mary Wollstonecraft (father of feminism) in her book 'Vindication of Rights of Women' has advocated for equal civil and political rights. Along with her started first wave of feminism which advocated for suffragate movement. (To men)

Radical feminism (Betty Friedan and Simon de Beauvoir) marks the beginning of second wave of feminism

Betty Friedan in her work "feminine mystique" has advocated for ending patriarchy. She highlighted the root cause of discrimination as patriarchy. If we not patriarchy then even equal liberal rights like equal participation of women in politics would lead to problem of "hyperandrogyny".

Simon de Beauvoir in her book "second sex" has taken the existentialist view women identity, sex and gender. She says that women live in a gendered society. Women are not given existential choice. She differentiated between sex as biological and gender as social

construct. she said that women are not just second sex but they are secondary sex.

Both the contribution of Betty Friedan and Simone Beauvoir has made our understanding of feminism more deep. They advocated for ending patriarchy, because patriarchy lead to targeted violence. (eg: Rape as targeted violence).

Susan Brown Miller said that Rape is the most effective institution of patriarchy. They directed the attention that women discrimination is not just limited to public sphere but also happens in private sphere. Carole Hanish "permitted as political". ex: domestic violence, marital rape etc.

with the third wave of feminism,
it become differentiated. Black
feminism, post colonial feminism etc.

The most important contribution
is of 'post modern feminism' ~~which~~
(Judith Butler) which led to spread
of discourse of gender justice to
transgender also. According to Butler,
gender is a performative term (social
construct), which is depend upon the
gender role one performs. Thus
gender identities are not rigid
but fluid.

Herrnstein inspired the current
CASTA movement. Indian supreme
court has decriminalised homosexuality
(Naveen Singh Jaiswal case).

The feminism movement continue
to guide gender justice movement
and address issues like legalizing
same sex marriage.

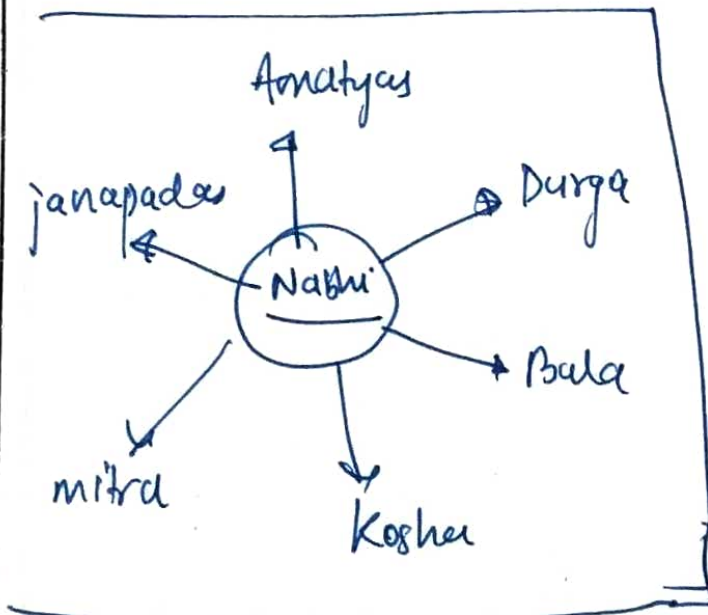
SECTION-B

Q.5 (a) Write a short note on Saptang Theory.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Saptang theory is a theory of sovereignty of state given by Kautilya in his book Artha shastra.

According to this theory, there are seven elements of state. The most important element is the king himself (Nabhi) which is at the centre of state sovereignty.



The other important elements are

① Amatyas - These are the

ministers of the state.

② Durga - forts which are important

for defense of the state

- ③ Dala - It represents force to protect the state against any aggression.
- ④ Kasha - It represents treasury.
(required for sustaining state power)
- ⑤ Mitra - friendly relations help in family alliances for foreign policies.
- ⑥ Tantrapada - Territory (imp element of sovereignty recognised in Montevideo Convention)

According to Kautilya if Nation is strong (king) and the elements which also be strong. This emphasises Kautilya's importance of the king (centralisation).

Also represented in Mont's theory of state (Hobbes and John Austin)

Q.5 (b)

Discuss Hannah Arendt's view on totalitarianism and Revolution.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates
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Hannah Arendt is the most important political thinker of the 20th Century.

She has done a detailed study on understanding totalitarianism (her work "On totalitarianism") - It helped in understanding the regimes like Nazism ~~and~~ in Germany and Fascism in Italy.

According to Arendt, totalitarianism is a political movement (It does not have any end). It origin because of the situation presented by capitalism and modernity — declining public participation, atomistic man and development of isolated mass.

Totalitarianism rules by

ideology, propaganda and build up for cultural mass. she says, totalitarianism is a radical evil (destroys the essence of man) and violence becomes an end in itself.

She also talked about Revolution. She has praised American Revolution as Tale of wisdom because it lead to civil and political rights. she criticized French Revolution as tale of necessity (social-economic rights). As a result, state became powerful in France and dictatorship came (Napoleon).

She calls for direct democracy (Civic Republicanism) and emphasis on "Communicative action in civil sphere" to exercise power which can check the power of state and prevent totalitarianism.

Q.5 (c)

Write a short note on Rousseau's popular sovereignty.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates
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"Rousseau is a bundle of paradoxes"
At a time when everyone was
praising modernity, he was critic
of Renaissance.

Rousseau says that man in
modern society is not free in true
sense. In the state of nature,
man was noble savage because he
was acting as per Real will.

With modernity, man became
a thinking ~~and~~ being and thinking man
is a depraved animal, Real will
replaced by Actual will (profit loss
in utilitarian sense).

In this context, to end the
alienation of man and bring true
freedom, he gave the concept
of popular sovereignty or General will.

General will is the collection or sum total of the real will of all individuals. People participate in direct democracy to establish general will.

All people are condemned to follow the general will because they will become free in true sense. Through this we established the legitimacy of popular sovereignty (positive liberty).

However, this is criticised as it increased the power of state. Justification of totalitarian regimes (Nazism, Fascism). General will of Rousseau is Hobbes Leviathan with its head chopped off.

But, the precondition of general will was equal participation which prevent state from being totalitarian.

Q.5 (d)

Explain the difference between empirical and normative political theory approaches.
(10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates
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Political science is one of the oldest discipline. Political theory is significant part of political science

First, political theory has rich intellectual tradition, it is studied through different approaches. Two important such approaches are Normative and Empirical.

Normative Approach is an older approach which tries to study the normative values. It helps in understanding the issues of justice, liberty, equality. ex: John Rawls theory of Justice, Dworkin's theory of Equality.

It is mainly understood through Reason. Hence it

is criticised for being subjective and lack of verifiable data.

Empirical approach is also an older approach but revived through behaviourism. Machlup is said to be pioneer of behaviourism.

It relies on senses, data, verification, history to derive a theory. Locke says, Mind is Tabula Rasa i.e. every knowledge comes through sense and there is nothing imprinted in human mind. (opposite of Rationalist like Plato, Descartes).

However, too much focus on Empiricism led to severe decline in political theory in 1960s.

In political science, we move in a bottomless and borderless sea (Oakshott). So both approaches are needed to come to true knowledge.

Q.5 (e)

Examine Ambedkar's ideas on Democracy.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Candidates
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Dr. Ambedkar is considered as the
chief Architect of the Indian Constitution.

He was one of the tallest figures
in Indian political thought because
of his theory of caste system which
advocated for social justice and
empowerment of Dalits.

Dr. Ambedkar's ideas on Democracy
It is an idea of substantive democracy.
He advocates not only for political
democracy but also social and
economic democracy.

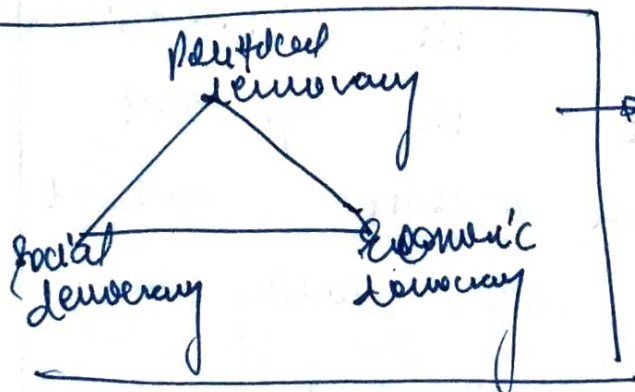
In political democracy, he advocated
for "one man, one vote, one value".

Political democracy will be meaningful
in true sense only if, there

It at its base social and economic democracy.

Social democracy demands for social justice, social equality, social empowerment of vulnerable sections. eg: He advocated for reservation of SC/ST and brought Hindu Code Bill (women rights).

Economic democracy demands economic equality. Recently Economic survey 2024 highlighted that in India, top 10% owns 60% of National income.



→ This can lead to Substantive democracy.

This can bring Justice in true sense

Q.6 (a)

Comment: "Sole purpose for which the state is created is the protection of property".
(Lock)
(15 marks, 200 words)

Candidates
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John Locke is considered as the father of liberalism. He in his 'two treatise on government' has laid the concept of limited government.

John Locke belongs to the liberal - empiricist - social contractarian tradition. He advocates that man has reason, he took more balanced view of human nature (Reason guiding passions in human being).

As per Locke, "Reason guides man not to harm others in life, liberty and property". He is the originator of Natural rights. He says that in the ~~human~~ State of Nature, Natural law i.e. Reason was guiding man. This natural law continues to guide even after the establishment of

State as a result of social contract.

He says, that natural rights are inalienable in nature. No one, not even the state can take away life, liberty and property.

Locke gave special emphasis on property. He advocated for absolute right to property. He said, initially there was common property, but as man started putting their labour, it led to the development of private property (labour theory of property - Aristotle).

In the State of Nature, there were some inconveniences (fusion of power), which led to the formation of State. State is not absolute only limited. Man not transferred all his power but only power to make law,

execute law and adjudicate law.

Natural law still guides man and acts as a check against the power of the state. Hence, the sole purpose of the state is to protect these natural rights, specially the right to property. Locke gave the concept of minimal state (necessary evil).

CB Macpherson criticised Locke as scholar of "possessive individualism" because of his absolute right to property.

Today, the Neoliberals like Nozick, F. Hayek draw inspiration from his theory of property, which is challenged by Neo-liberals (John Rawls - difference principle).

Q.6 (b)

Discuss Gandhi's critique of modern civilisation and industrialisation?

(15 marks, 200 words)

Candidates
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Gandhi is not political philosopher in the conventional sense of the term. He is one of the most important political leader.

Acharya and Torpe of the architectonic idea of Gandhi's political thought. He also inspired from Kant's categorical imperative and always advocated for purity of means.

Gandhi has criticised modern civilisation and industrialisation. He in his book "hind Swaraj" has called modern state as "SATANIC".

Gandhi advocated for Swaraj. Swaraj has different meaning in different dimension. At the individual level, it means

freedom of desires and empowerment of self (Aurobindo - swaraj - elimination of Tamas).

At the political level, 'Swaraj' means democratic decentralisation, where people at the grassroots are empowered to take political decisions (grassroot democracy).

At the economic level, 'Swaraj' means village self-reliance and growth of cooperative and cottage industries as means of production. He advocated for "production by masses" and not "mass production".

According to Gandhi, modern state goes for modernisation and industrialisation, where centre become all power and people

at the grassroots are underdeveloped. The idea of modern civilisation was acquired as a modern idea of society.

Marxist perspective, Gandhi's critique can be understood as war of position, an attempt to build counter hegemony by building coalition of subaltern class against the dominant hegemony of modern state and industries (Gramscian perspective of hegemony).

It was an war of position to delegitimise British Rule, to inspire people to go for war of manoeuvre (Quit India movement).

Gandhi's ~~pro~~critic continue to inspire today for good governance
ex: 2nd ARC - principle of subsidiarity for good governance, 73rd and 74th amendments - local governments.

Q.6 (c)

"Power corresponds to the human ability not just to act but to act in concert. Power is never the property of an individual; it belongs to a group and remains in existence only so long as the group keeps together." (Hannah Arendt)

(20 marks, 250 words)

Candidates must not write on this margin

Hannah Arendt is the most influential political thinker of the twentieth century. Her theory of totalitarianism was impactful in understanding the regimes like Nazism and Communism.

Hannah Arendt, has given the theory of power in her book, "On Violence".

She differentiated power from force, strength and violence. Force is natural while power is not natural. Strength is related to individual but power is related to group. Violence is illegitimate, while power is legitimate (authority).

According to Arendt, power comes when people come together and act in consort with each other.

It means, power is not the property of individual, power is exercised ~~only~~ when people come in group. In this context she has given the importance of public sphere and class Republicanism, where people come together to discuss political affairs (she is reviving Hellenistic traditions).

Power is not stored, it remains in existence only so long as the group keeps together. Thus power is exercised only when Action is performed i.e. class Republicanism and power dissipates when the group breaks.

In her book "On Human Condition" she has given the theory of Action. she says when people act and participate in civic spheres of life, it leads to highest Action, which leads to highest freedom.

she has also highlighted the importance of thinking. "In order to be happy, man has to ~~freedom~~, in order to be free, man has to think".

Thus, thinking cannot be done alone, thinking happens in group.

Thus, when people come together, think and deliberate together on political matters, they exercise power (freedom of speech) which leads to freedom of man in true sense, which leads to happiness (ends alienation - atomistic man)

Thus, according to Hannah Arendt, power can be understood as "communicative action in civic sphere" where people act in concert with each other and exercise maximum freedom.

Flexibility of power is an inspiration for direct democracy, social movements, pressure groups (interest articulation and interest aggregation).

This helps to check the excessive power of the state and prevent the state from being totalitarian. Ex - Rise of neo Right in Europe (Italy) and Rise of new left.