



SOCIOLOGY

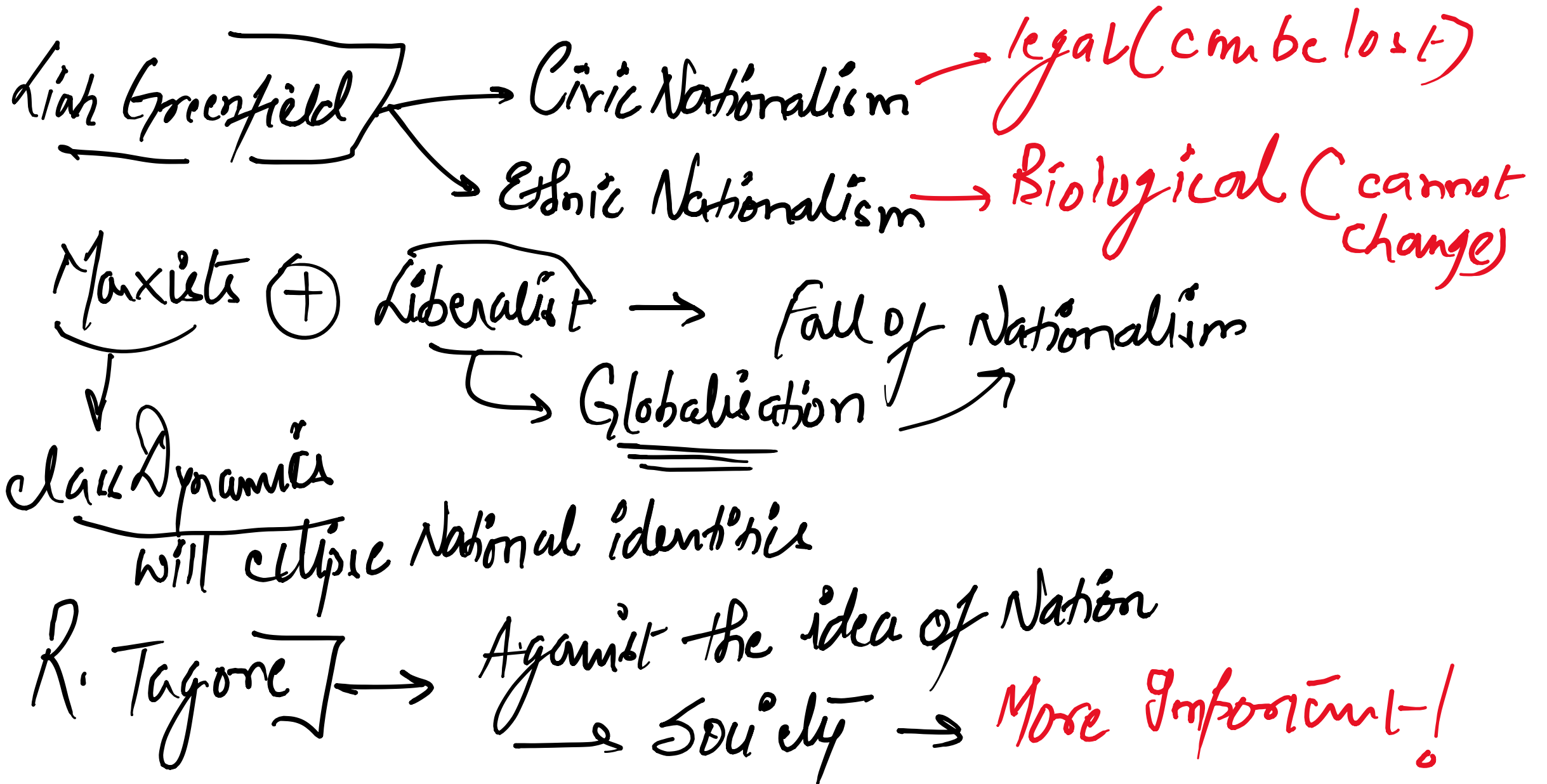
POLITICS AND SOCIETY-STATE,
POWER, ELITE etc.

SOCIOLOGY LECTURE-35

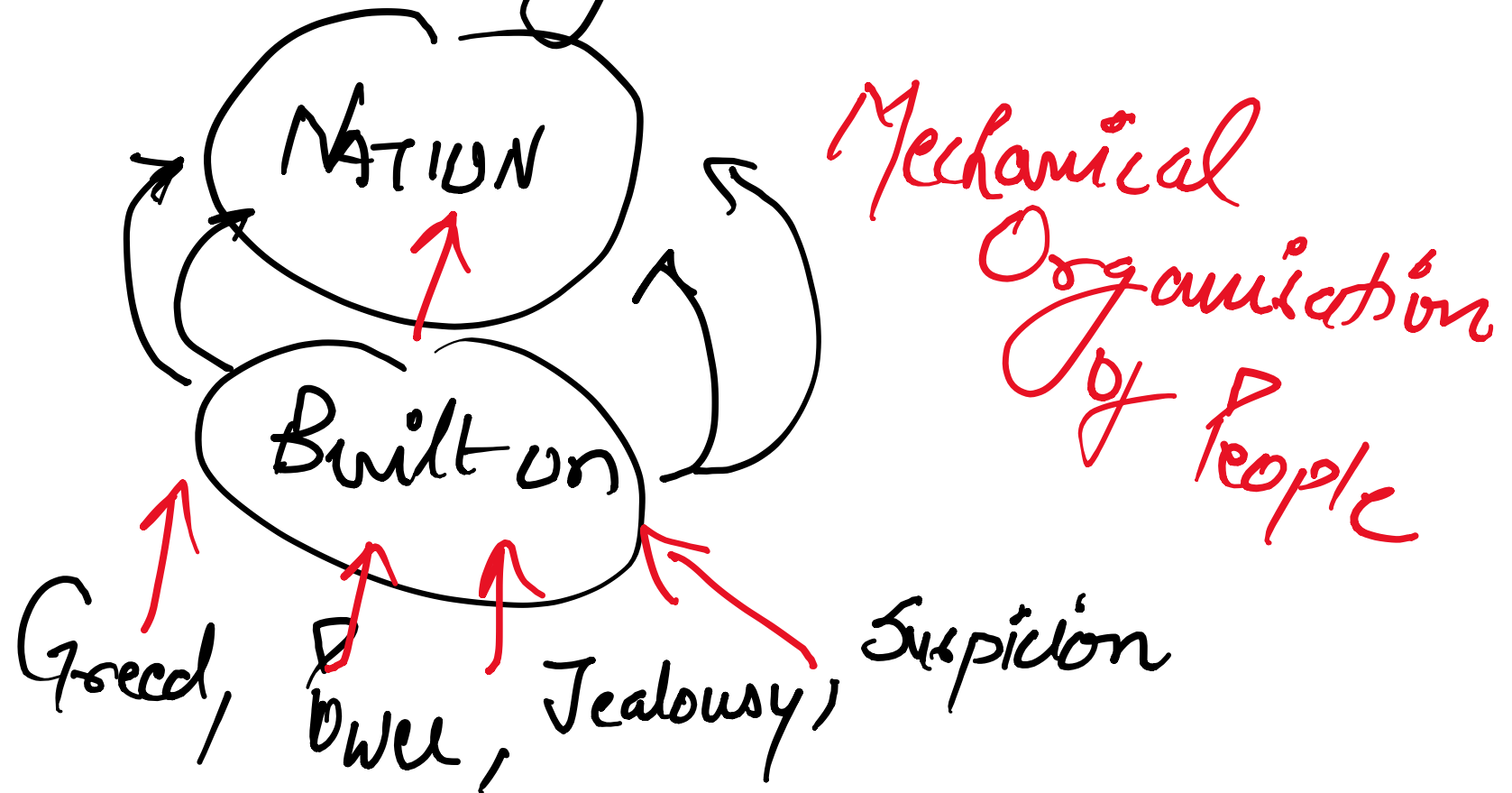
POLITICS AND SOCIETY-THEORIES-ELITE-BUREAUCRACY,PRESSURE GROUPS etc.

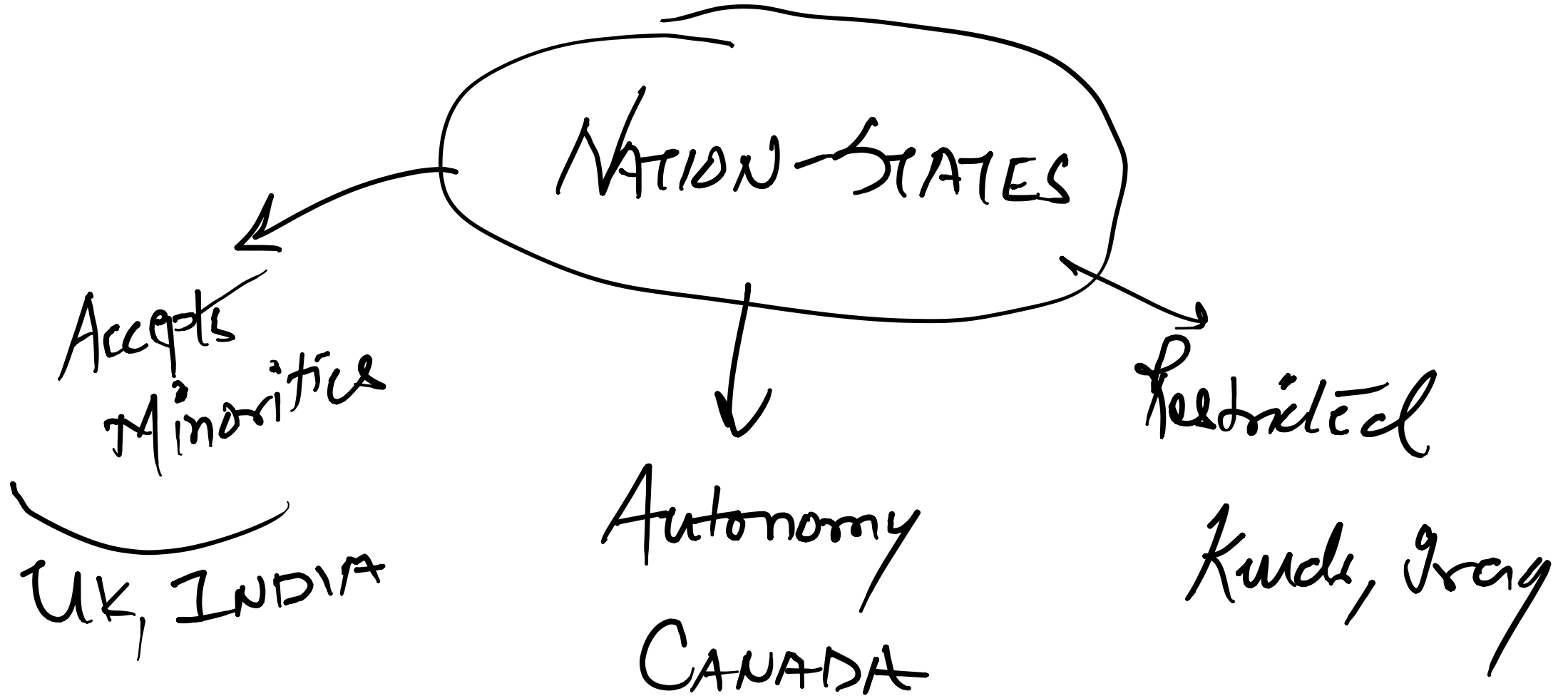
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NATION-NATIONALISM



THEOREY → NATION → Take away Individual Freedom





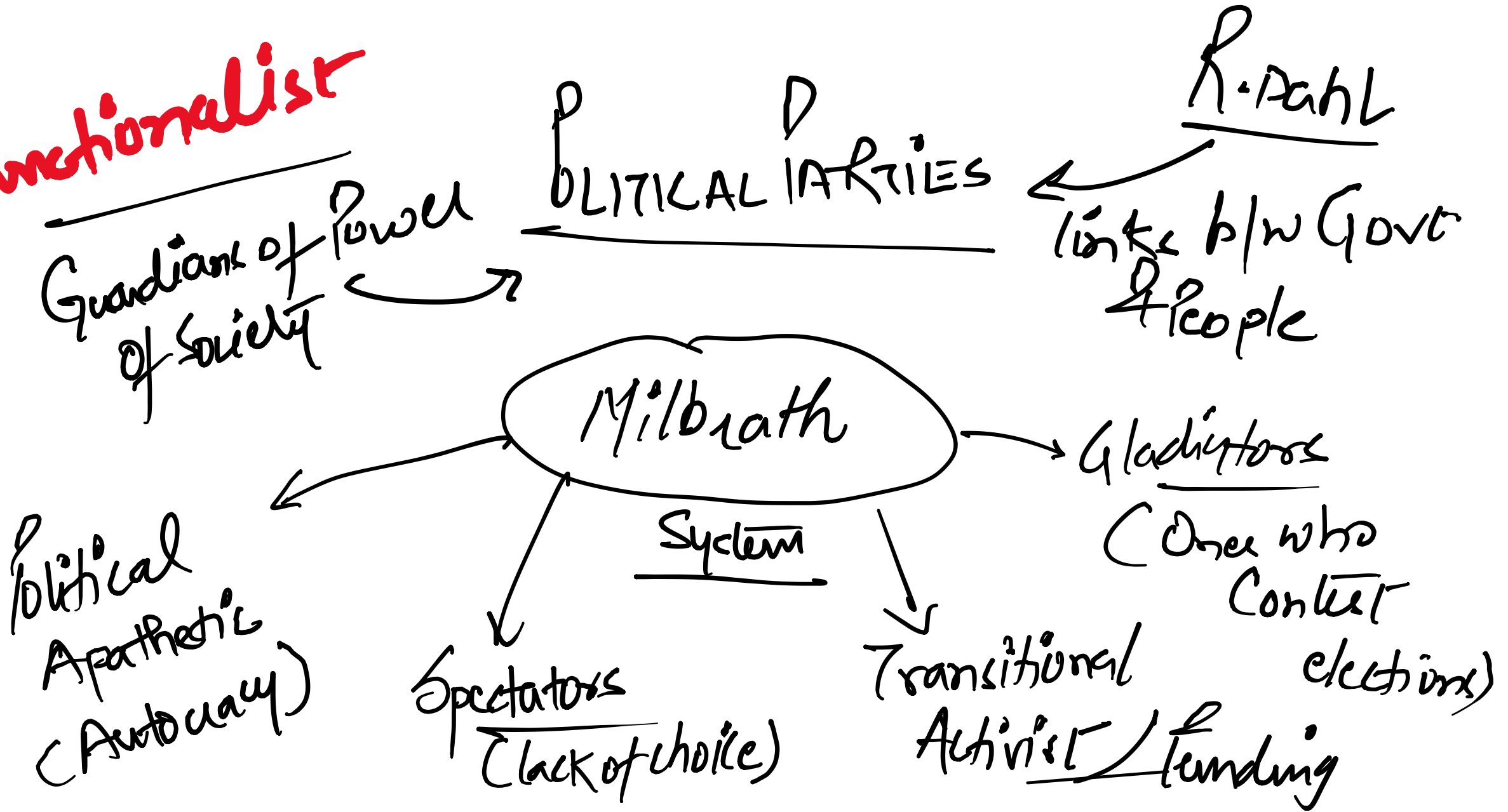
POLITICAL PARTIES

WEBER → Organised Structure → Promotes Candidates
↓ via election ↓
To Capture POWER

Characteristics

- ① Organised form of people
- ② Under Constitution
- ③ Ideology + Principles
- ④ Govt → through legit Means
- ⑤ Checks as Opposition + Mobilising Public Opinion.

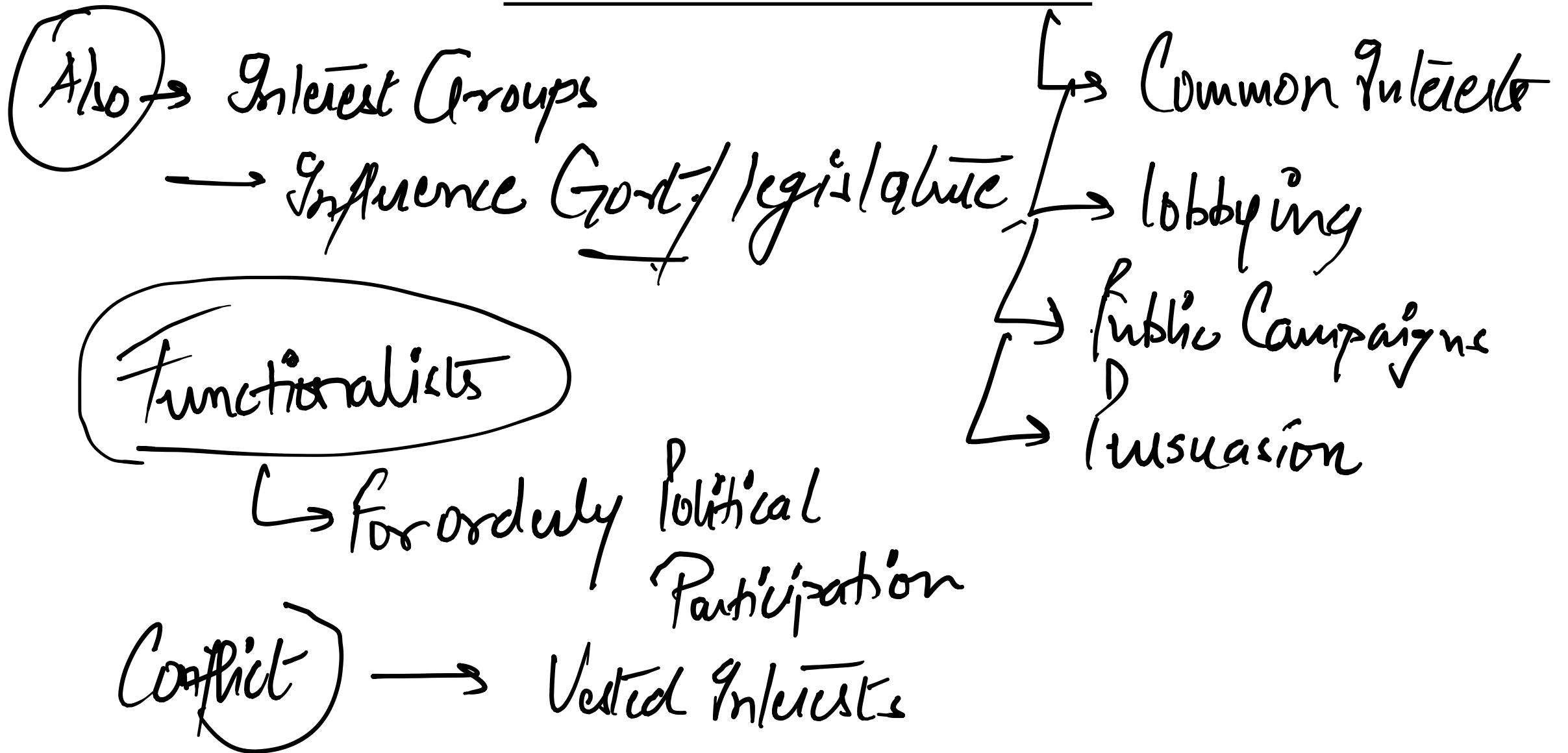
Functionalist



People want → Political Parties
to serve their interests

Dez Leiglan → Political Parties → Create false illusion through Elections
↓
like Roman Circus → To satisfy

PRESSURE GROUPS



Pressure Group
↓
do not aim Power

Political Party
↓
aim Power

Flexible
Multiple Power Centres
Elite

Mannice → Promotional (PETA)
Wider

Protective (Fice 1)
Narrow

Gabriel, Powell → Institutional PC
(Trade Unions)
limited Goals.
Atomic (Movement)

Issues of Pressure Groups

→ Biased Interests (Economic)

→ Narrow basis sometimes (India)
Caste

→ Can turn Political

↳ Akali, Shiv Sena
etc.

PRESSURE GROUPS

- The emergence of special interest groups alongside the political parties and the demand for democratic governance has made interest groups the greatest impetus as well as the greatest threat to the rights of ordinary individuals and to democracy
- **Classified as protective** (Indian Medical assn., Trade unions etc) or **promotional** (greenpeace)
- **Another classification by Gabriel Almond:**
- **Associative:** well defined, structured, formally organised
- **Non-associative:** based on common ethnicity, caste etc. come when situation demands
- **Institutional:** who work within formal institutions. Eg IAS in India, Army in Pakistan
Anomie :those which primarily rely on illegal means.
- Can bring pressure in number of ways: **Contribute funds; Appeal public opinion, civil disobedience, provision of expertise, illegal payments.**
- **Paul Hirst** has studied interest groups as a **symptom of associationalist ethics** and based upon the **distrust of the centralised state** for 2 reasons, that the state is a compulsory community although most genuine communities are freely formed, second; it made omnipotent claims to regulate social life.

PRESSURE GROUPS

- **David Reisman**-proposed the concept of veto groups (explained in terms of a diversified and balanced plurality of interest groups, each of which is primarily concerned with protecting its jurisdiction by blocking actions of other groups which seem to threaten that jurisdiction)
- Riesman, on the other hand, proposed a pyramid formed of two layers. Riesman did not recognize the presence of powerelite. The upper layer is occupied by veto groups.
- Riesman lays emphasis on increasing dispersion of power and the tendency toward the dispersal of power among a plurality of organized interests.
- **Olsen** linked interest groups to **corruption**: Olsen has also described in his other work **The Rise and Decline of Nations** that the rent seeking comes out of protectionist policies & the state under the influence of organised interests which further protect and sustain the rent seeking

PRESSURE GROUPS

- **Olson** has mentioned three categories of interest groups on the basis of the their political constituency; **privileged, intermediate and latent**:
 - **Privileged**: benefits from a tariff such as Reliance, or a trade union which is part of the political party such as All India Trade Union Congress.
 - **Intermediate**: The intermediate group is not privileged but sustains its collective action on the basis of mutual watchfulness over each other's behaviour such as the teachers associations
 - **Latent**: The third type of interest group is neither privileged or intermediate but is more or less non-existent. People for animals, Senior citizens assn., helppageindia etc
- It is not a logical conclusion that political parties have lost their representative character in policy process and are now groping in to win the support of interest groups. They are still the most accepted, widely dispersed and territorially represented structures of democracy which continue to be in an advantageous position as frontline representatives of people.



THANKYOU
