



SOCIOLOGY

POLITICS AND SOCIETY-STATE,
POWER, ELITE etc.

SOCIOLOGY LECTURE-36

DEMOCRACY, CITIZENSHIP, CIVIL SOCIETY, SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

© DEEPANSHU SINGH



Latin (Demos) PEOPLE
(Kratos) RULE

DEMOCRACY → Rule by People

* Cleisthenes (Greek) → 1st Democracy Athens (508 BCE)

Modern Evolution ⇒ Europe

PLATO → MOBOCRACY / Frowned by HOBBS & LOCKE

LINCOLN → For, of, By the People

Associative → Durkheim
↳ Based on Assoc / Work

Right of Self-determination

Principles → Indiv. liberty, Rule of Law, Common interests



DEMOCRACY

⇒ Because of a series of Events / Wars.

- ① Indirect democracy → Representative (India)
- ② Direct democracy → Referendum etc.
- ③ Liberal democracy

Pluralists → Elite rule

Bottomore → Pluralist Society - India - Undemocratic

Marx → it tolerates inequality → Economic + Political
→ Communists → True

democracy



DEMOCRACY

Lipset & Coleman → Institutional democracy
Need of
→ Control of Economic elite.

R. Michels → Iron hand of
Oligarchy → Bureaucracy

Joseph M → Deliberative Democracy

H. Kelsen → Tyranny of Majority (Elections)

Leites → state using its power to form opinion
of people



DEMOCRACY

J S Mill → Mankind minus one

Functionalists → Unjustified Both Ways!
Power by People (Elections)



Has both
Rights & Duties

(Social Contract
Theory)

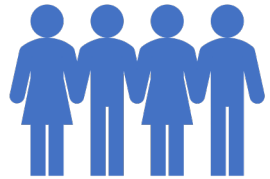
CITIZENSHIP

→ Emerged with Nation
State Concept

↳ collective feeling

of being part of a single National Identity

Freedom in a Slave Society (Greece)



CIVIL SOCIETY

CIVIL SOCIETY

- Civil society became a key element of **The post-cold-war zeitgeist**.
- **2 functions:** Defence against excesses of state & strengthens democracy
- **Hobbes and Locke** understood civil society as a stage in human history where all were at war against all but **Adam Ferguson** is credited with the modern day understanding of civil society
- term 'civil society' can be traced through the works of Cicero and other Romans to the ancient Greek philosophers. In its classical usage civil society was largely equated with the state.
- Civil Society in modern sense can be traced to **Thomas Paine to George Hegel**, developed the notion of civil society as a **domain parallel to but separate from the state** where citizens associate according to their own interests and wishes.
- **Antonio Gramsci:** civil society is a **special nucleus of independent political activity**, a crucial sphere of **struggle against tyranny**.

CIVIL SOCIETY

- **David Held:** Civil society is made up of areas of social life—the domestic world, the economic sphere, cultural activities and political interaction—which are organised by private or voluntary arrangements between individuals and groups outside the direct control of the state.”
- **Robert Michels:** Decentralization serves as a mechanism by which weak leaders seek to get away from the dominion of the stronger ones. He *laid thrust on developing the spirit of free inquiry, criticism and control of the leaders among the masses*. It maybe noted that these are imperative in the process of strengthening democracy
- it includes the plethora of organisations including interest groups or pressure groups.
- **Larry Diamond:** Civil society performs following important functions:
 - **Limit state power**
 - **Empower citizens**
 - inculcate and promote an arena for the development of democratic attributes
 - amongst the citizens— tolerance, moderation etc
 - To function as a recruiting, informational and leadership generating agency
 - To generate public and political support
 - Election monitoring

CIVIL SOCIETY

- **Scholte**: 6 areas where civil society could advance democracy:
- **Public education**
- **Voice to stakeholders**
- **Policy inputs**
- **Transparency of governance**
- **Public accountability**
- **Legitimacy**



SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

COLLECTIVE ACTION

- **Herbert Blumer:** to refer to social processes and events which do not reflect existing social structure (laws, conventions, and institutions), but which emerge in a "spontaneous" way.
- **Locher:** Collective behaviour is always driven by group dynamics, encouraging people to engage in acts they might consider unthinkable under typical social circumstances
- **Blumer classification of forms of collective action:**
 - **Crowd:** crowds are indeed emotional. But to them a crowd is capable of any emotion, not only the negative ones of anger and fear. Can be joy too
 - **Public:** Park distinguishes the crowd, which expresses a common emotion, from a public, which discusses a single issue. Thus, a public is not equivalent to all of the members of a society. To Park and Blumer, there are as many publics as there are issues
 - **Mass:** It differs from both the crowd and the public in that it is defined not by a form of interaction but by the efforts of those who use the mass media to address an Audience
- **Social Movement:** They are large, sometimes informal, groupings of individuals or organizations which focus on specific political or social issues. In other words, they carry out, resist or undo a social change. **Social movements are not eternal.**



IDEAOLOGY



THANKYOU
