

# Modern Politics and Government

## \* What is Politics?

The process by which individual interests are reconciled with collective action and the provision of public goods.

→ **Macro Politics** : state level

→ **Micro Politics** : everyday life

→ **Implications** of Politics on everyday life:

→ defines statuses in any entity → affects on provision of goods

→ forms groups of similar & beliefs

→ Politics sets a singular standard in any entity or body of people out of multiple opinions & interests w.r.t that specific standard. ideally for greater good

\* everything related to human interaction i.e. an invention, data or anything affecting humans is related to politics

\* In real world, no, majority does not have power over all.

\* Politics breaks deadlocks, a process of forgiveness

\* **conflict**: force method

solved via democratic method

politics.

\* art of not avoiding conflicts, rather minimizing, mitigating & navigating through conflicts.

\* **conflict owners** because of:

→ Resources

→ Ideas

\* either conflict is minimized into bare minimum consensus OR it leads to violence & war.

\* politics → theory : ideally

→ practice : reality

\* **Modern Democracy / Democracy**

\* **Renaissance** : 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> century

\* **Enlightenment Era** : Modernity refers to -

↳ 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> century

\* **Medieval Europe** - 5<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century

↳ called dark times due to theocracy i.e. Kingdom, rule based on religion.

## Renaissance

- \* Three pillars for theocracy:
    - King (Political face)
    - Clergy (religious class)
    - Utlizm (Financial part) (Lands)
      - (Serf (agricultural slaves))
      - ↳ Living on the land of Feudal lords.
  - \* Rule of Dogma: what the clergy says goes.
    - (↳ big pet beliefs.)
  - \* Renaissance is an indirect criticism on dark times.
 

It was introducing transition from dark times to renaissance, it occurred via art and literature.
  - \* Human Agency is the most powerful to exert.
  - \* Renaissance is a "rebirth of greek thoughts"
  - Serf was replaced with citizenship
  - Modern Nationalism was introduced (Territorial)
- Q: If reading, knowledge & wisdom was banned throughout the dark ages for thousand years, how did renaissance take place?
- A: Islam was the breaking through point.

- ① \* Reformation - 1515 (contributing factors)
- (Martin Luther → Clergy person but raised questions on it)
    - ↳ new sect of belief in Christianity
    - "Protestant" Church.
- ② \* French Revolution (1789) → a challenge to kingship
- ④ \* English Revolution → constitutional monarchy
- ③ \* American Revolution → liberty
- ⑤ \* Industrial Revolution → modern Capitalism
- \* Scientific Revolution

Book (Tech Feudalism)

- Q Is modernity universal?
- Q To what extent modernity has fulfilled its promises?
- Q why did they want to implement their modernity on the rest of the world?
- \* serf → industrial worker

Book → madness & civilization — Foucault

### \* Post Modernism

→ European scholars

→ positivism

#### Claims:

→ reach objective truth

"Relativism" ← truth is not objective but relative or subjective.

→ Philosophers who influenced decline of modernism:

① Derrida → "language is unstable because the mind isn't either"

② Foucault → "knowledge is a function of power"

③ Lyotard → "knowledge is not universal, reality is!"

### \* Ontology : nature of things (reality of things)

\* Epistemology : nature of knowledge (relation of the  
→ difference b/w both ↑ things with humans)

\* Post-truth → truth doesn't exist.

### \* Colonization:

caused by : \* Industrialization

\* Modernity

### Theories of the origin of state

#### \* Force Theory

→ conflict, war, force

\* state is a result of force

e.g. colonialism

the only legitimate factor was "power" and the basis of state formation was violence and force.

#### \* Divine Rights Theory

→ the primary legitimacy was theocracy.

→ force may also be a factor but not primary

\* **Evolution Theory of State** kingdom  
→ family → clan → tribe → state.

\* **Social Contract theory / modern Democratic theory**  
→ people's will.

### **Ingredients of state:**

→ people / population } physical elements

→ land / territory }

→ government } political elements

→ sovereignty

↳ ability of the government to act independently without internal & external pressures.

\* Global Government is the biggest challenge to the sovereignty of the state.

### **Pillars of Government:**

(1) → **Legislature**: elected representatives, senate.

↳ to make laws, to amend laws,  
to oversee the Executive.

↳ Uni-cameral: one house.

↳ bi-cameral: pakistan national assembly  
house of federation → senate

Cabinet governs ↓

(2) → **Executive**: whole government apparatus, bureaucracy  
↳ the personnel that implements

Minister looks  
over  
executives

(3) → **Judiciary** provide justice to the citizens  
interpret laws & constitution

guardian of  
constitution

4 federating units: Punjab, Balochistan, KPK, Sindh

Q how can we fix the issue of the senator election

- \* Cabinet minister system → came from UK.  
\* Presidential system → came from America
- \* Parliamentary vs Presidential form of government.
- Majoritarianism** : when majority beliefs are imposed on democracy; when majority considers minority. (minority)
- \* The distribution of congress is according to the population while the senate is according to the provinces
- Parliament**
- ```
graph TD; Parliament --> legislature[legislature]; Parliament --> executive[Executive]; legislature --> prime_minister[prime minister<br/>head]; executive --> president[president<br/>head];
```
- The president forms cabinets not necessarily from the congress.
- fusion of power.
- \* no separation of power in parliamentary.  
i.e. legislature & executive work together
- \* but in presidential form the power is distributed among both legislature & executive.
- electoral colleges → same number of members as congress. but congress is not included as members for electing president. It is basically the number depending upon the number of seats in every state.

If one president has more popular votes in a state all seats are fallen into that president's ~~the~~ count of seats in the presidential election.

- \* It is easy to remove a prime minister in parliamentary form of government because the power lies with legislature. but when it comes to presidential system, you can't easily remove the president.
- \* the congress can **impeach** the president anyways.

#### \* **Primaries (elections)**

- The party members conduct these primary elections where some members are nominated & they conduct "**closed primary elections**" where they elect their party head.
- "**Open primary**" elections also take place where anyone outside your own party can vote a party leader as well.

#### **Democracy :**

"People's" rules

Ibn-e-Khuldoon :

- \* Capitalism is the biggest **threat to democracy**, populism, digitalization

- \* **Participatory democracy**.

- \* **Representative democracy (today's)**

\* **Maoist politics**

\* **statist**

\* **Majoritarianism** → is not democracy

\* democracy is inclusive, **inclusivity** is the fundamental principle of democracy.

## Constitution.

\* Constitution leads the social, economical, and political lives of the citizens of state.

\* Socio-political legal document.

→ Procedural constitution

↳ gives details of procedures, rules, regulations.

→ Prescriptive constitution

↳ is procedural constitution, but it also deals with the values, ideology, good & bad

Q. What is the procedure of presidential election etc?

## Democracy, Economy, Colonialism.

→ British brought democracy, the west minister system, political parties, political modernity

→ They brought limited franchise.

→ Distant bureaucracy today is a result of colonialism.

→ 3 main types of education system before colonization

\* Formal education (Maktab)

\* Semi-formal education (seminaries/ religious institutions)

\* Informal Education (community education).

## Theory of collaboration



Robert Robinson

Q. How did such a small country England rule the world?

They made intermediaries (the local elites / the collaborators) which executed their rule on land.

# Prison Notebook.

Book

## \* Theory of Cultural Harmony.

Antonio Gramsci, Italian political leader,  
→ Karl Marx fought against fascism

\* Colonialism & capitalism aided each other to propagate.

\* Capitalism started in the industrial revolution.

\* Capitalism creates surplus value.

\* Monopolistic capitalism

Power in colonialism comes from some factors:

① Dominance, expression & use of power.

② Fear, Coercion.

③ Hegemony: fear by consent in subjects.

## \* Political Parties

- Categorical

- Mass vs Cadre

- Constitutional / Revolutionary

- Representative - Integrative.

Long Walk to Struggle - Book

The book of Joy.

- Left vs Right

\* EFF: economic freedom fighters.

↳ some radicals broke from National African Congress to fight for economic freedom.

\* without economic freedom, political freedom is an illusion.

## 1) \* Right & Left wing:

After the French Revolution, people who went against monarchy are left & the people ~~were~~ in support of monarchy are right.

Right:

capitalist  
hierarchy

Left:

Socialist  
marxism

Centre:

centre to left  
centre to right.

## \* Party system:

4 types:

→ one party system e.g China.

→ two party system e.g US

→ multi-party system e.g Pakistan

→ dominant party system e.g Indian National Congress in India

→ org. number  
of parties can  
compete.

## \* Threats for democracy:

→ populism

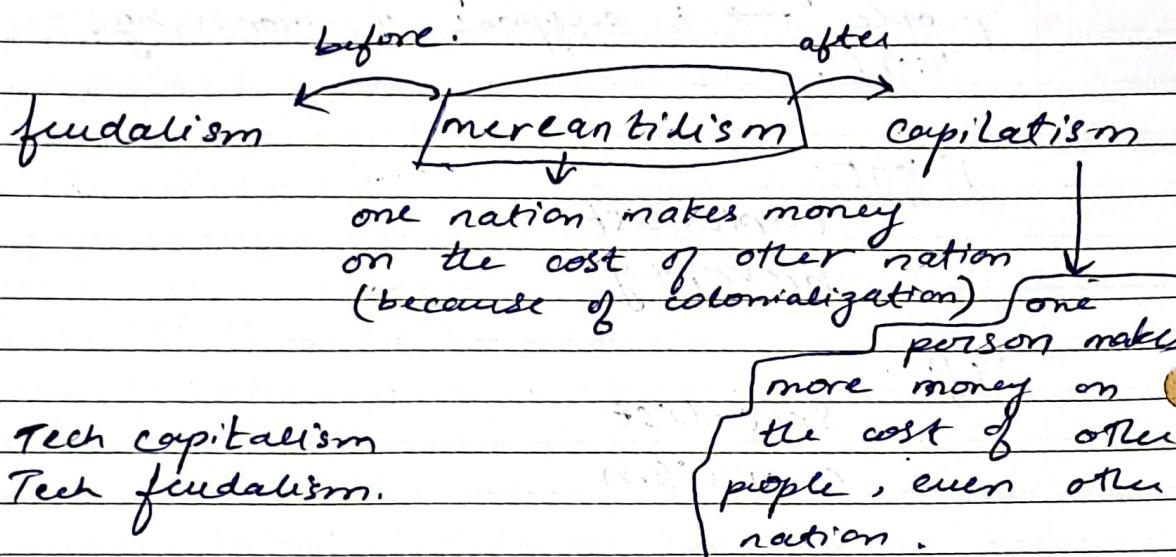
→ capitalism

→

\* Populism pushes dividing agendas on people e.g. in US muslims are marginalized.

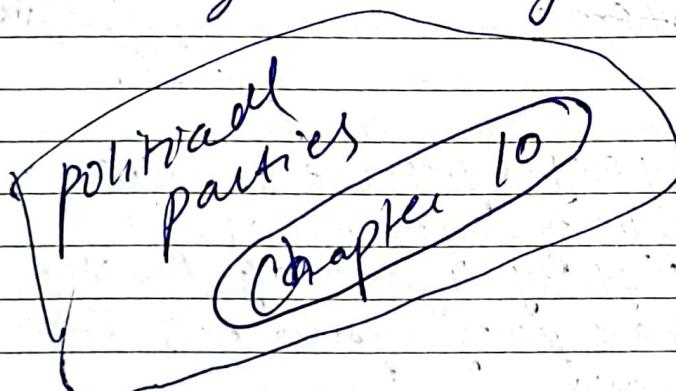
## Capitalism

- \* free market economy
- \* means of production.
- \* private property



1930's recession (the great depression)

state - guided, oligarchic



Fundamentals of Capitalism,

- Free market
- surplus production

Types of capitalism:

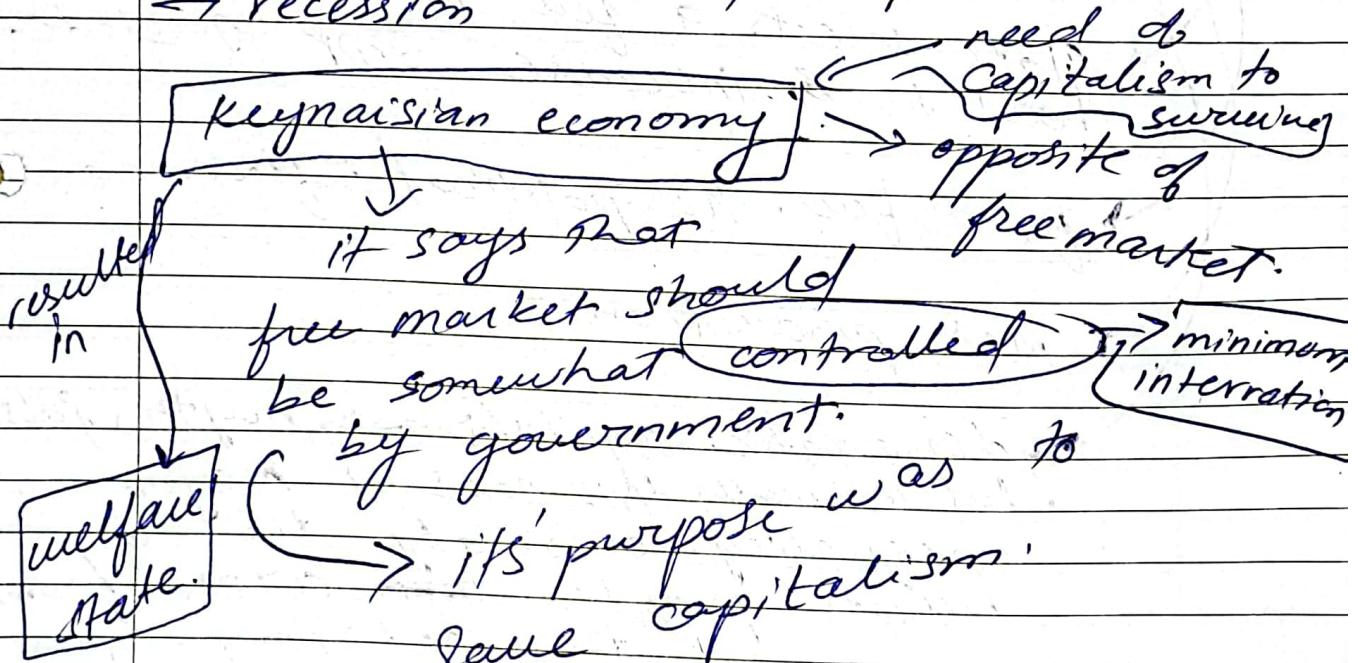
- \* Entrepreneurial
- \* Tech
- \* State guided

- \* Capitalism is related to Industrial revolution, colonization etc.

## mode of production

the product does not belong to the workers but the owner of the "means of production"

- 1930's, challenge for capitalism.
- recession



## Boom & burst ← capitalism

## Rise of socialism

- \* political challenge for capitalism comes from socialism & soviet union.
  - to tackle this welfare state emerged.
- After some decades the soviet union declined which led to conversion of capitalism to Laissez faire (free market)

→ ultimately leading to neo-liberalism.

→ Neo-capitalism:

- ① State-guided capitalism
- ② Oligarchic capitalism
- ③ Big Firm capitalism
- ④ Entrepreneurial capitalism

state selects a few industries to boost to increase GDP of state.

for a few has political influence.

mass production.

→ democratic capitalism → myth, false.  
but ironically this caused major inequality. currently the 6 richest people ~~are~~ arose from this category.

Neo-liberalism:

→ Margaret ~~Thatcher~~ Thatcher

→ President ~~Ronald~~ Reagan

\* Deregulation

\* Privatization (cutting the <sup>welfare</sup> public expenditures)

\* No concept of public service / public good

\* Self responsible citizen

\* deunionization (public unions end)

## \* End of History ~~book~~ \* Myth of Independence ~~book~~ by Book Buzz

\* Neoliberalism treats government as pure service and makes it withdraw from any kind of business (even when require for public good e.g. education, health etc) calculated.

- Instrumental Rationality → functional.
- Value oriented Rationality.

## \* Digitalization & politics

\* Information, society & politics.

## \* Cultivation Theory

↳ your behaviour is cultivated through what you watch or the information consumed.

\* Tech Capitalism

\* Confirmation Bias (<sup>Digital</sup> Echo chambers).

mediatization.

## Globalization

→ Archiace.

→ Proto

→ Modern

\* The world today is not uni-polar post-globalization  
\* Its called post-globalization is a challenge  
\* Globalization is a sovereignty  
\* Globalization to state sovereignty

- Impact of Globalization on culture, economy and politics.

- ~~Essay~~ Political impact.

- Bipolar : when the world has 2 powers.