

Difference between Monarchy and Democracy

What is Monarchy:

Monarchy is a form of government or political system which gives a single person the undivided authority to rule or govern. The person who heads the monarchy is known as a monarch. The term monarchy is applied when the supreme authority of a state or country lies in the hands of a monarch, who functions as the head of state. The position of monarch is mostly obtained through heredity.

The political rights and authority that lies in the monarch's hand vary- symbolic (crowned republic), restricted (constitutional monarch), and complete autocracy (absolute monarchy). He extends his powers through various forms such as the legislature, executive, and judiciary. Monarchs are often crowned with titles such as king, queen, emperor, raja, khan, sultan, etc.

Monarchy was the most common form of government until 20th century. Eventually people have inclined themselves more towards a democratic form of government but still, 45 sovereign nations have monarchy including 16 commonwealth realms that are ruled by Elizabeth II as the head of state.

What is Democracy:

Democracy is a form of government where the people of the nation have the authority to choose their government. The term democracy has been derived from the Greek word "demokratia" which was made from the word "demos" (people) and "kratos" (rule) meaning people's rule.

Democracy works in the principles of equality and freedom, freedom of assembly and speech, inclusiveness and equality, membership, consent, voting, right to life, and minority privilege.

Further democracy can be classified as direct democracy and representative democracy. Direct democracy is where people directly calculate and decide on legislation and representative democracy is when people choose a representative who calculates and decides legislation.

Main Differences Between Monarchy and Democracy

- The difference between monarchy and democracy is that in monarchy the monarch is not answerable to the people of the nation and the people of the nation cannot question his actions whereas in a democracy the key features are that the government is answerable to the people and they can even question his policies.
- Democracy till date is considered the most efficient form of government. Democracy is a widely chosen form of government by monarchy is still found in certain places in the world.
- Monarchy is a form of government where all the power lies in the hand of a single person. The position is obtained by the hierarchy as his family previously might have ruled over the nation. Democracy, on the other hand, is a form of government where the ruler is chosen by the people of the nation. He along with the other bodies of the government rules the nation.
- Monarchy is headed by a monarch who is a succession of the already ruling family. It is a hierarchy whereas democracy is a form of government that is headed by a ruler chosen by the people.
- The decisions in a monarchy are taken by the monarch whereas in a democracy the government takes the majority of the decisions keeping in mind the suggestion of the citizens of his nation.
- In the monarchy, the monarch is not at any cost accountable to people for his actions or policies whereas in a democracy the government at all times is accountable to his nation.

- In a monarchy, the monarch is not open to criticism on any questions that are made on the policies whereas in a democracy the government is open to criticism and he has to answer questions that arise on him.
- In a monarchy, all the citizens are not considered equal whereas in a democracy all the citizens are equal under the law and they cannot be discriminated against anyhow.
- The citizens under the monarchy face oppression by the monarch whereas the citizens under democracy do not face oppression by the leaders.

Comparison Table Between Monarchy and Democracy

Parameter of Comparison	Monarchy	Democracy
Rule	Headed by a monarch	Ruled by a government chosen by people
Decision	The monarch makes the decisions	Government makes the major decisions keeping in mind the peoples' feedback
Accountability	Not accountable to anyone	Accountable to everyone for his actions
Criticism	Not allowed to criticize or question	Open to criticism and questions
Oppression	Citizens face oppression by monarch	Citizens are not oppressed
Equality	People are not considered equal	Everyone is considered equal
Practice	India, U.S.A., France	United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia

CONCLUSION

There are different forms of government rule nations. Before the 20th-century monarchy was the most preferred form of government but eventually as days passed people discovered other forms of government such as democracy. Very fast it became the most preferred form of government as people started for their rights and refused to be dictated by the monarch any further. Still today 45 sovereign nations are under the monarchy.

Monarchy is a form of government headed by the monarch who is chosen by hereditary and not by the choice of people. He is not answerable to anyone for his actions neither can anyone criticize nor question his policies. Democracy on the other hand is a form of government where the leader is chosen directly or indirectly by the people. As he has been elected by the people, he is answerable to the people for his actions and if wanted his policies can also be criticized or questioned.