

**DIRECTORATE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION  
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL**

**MASTER OF ARTS - POLITICAL SCIENCE  
SEMESTER- I**

**WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT  
CORE 101  
BLOCK-1**

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## UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL

Postal Address:

The Registrar,

University of North Bengal,

Raja Ram mohunpur,

P.O.-N.B.U., Dist.-Darjeeling,

West Bengal, Pin-734013,

India.

Phone: (O) +91 0353-2776331/2699008

Fax: (0353) 2776313, 2699001

Email: regnbu@sancharnet.in; regnbu@nbu.ac.in

Website: www.nbu.ac.in

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## **FOREWORD**

The Self Learning Material (SLM) is written with the aim of providing simple and organized study content to all the learners. The SLMs are prepared on the framework of being mutually cohesive, internally consistent and structured as per the university's syllabi. It is a humble attempt to give glimpses of the various approaches and dimensions to the topic of study and to kindle the learner's interest to the subject

We have tried to put together information from various sources into this book that has been written in an engaging style with interesting and relevant examples. It introduces you to the insights of subject concepts and theories and presents them in a way that is easy to understand and comprehend.

We always believe in continuous improvement and would periodically update the content in the very interest of the learners. It may be added that despite enormous efforts and coordination, there is every possibility for some omission or inadequacy in few areas or topics, which would definitely be rectified in future.

We hope you enjoy learning from this book and the experience truly enrich your learning and help you to advance in your career and future endeavors.

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# WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT

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# **BLOCK 1 – WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT**

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## **Introduction to the block**

Introduction of Political Science is also known as political theory. The study of politics and power from domestic, international, and comparative perspectives is political science. Basically, understanding political ideologies, political system, process of behavior all group of people, class, government, diplomacy, law, strategy, war, liberty, justices, property rights and the power of enforcement laws by authority.

**Unit 1:** The Early Political Thought -why political thought is necessary?

**Unit 2:** The Contract Arians- the role of Contract Arians.

**Unit 3:** Utilitarian's and After changes- in the political thinking of people.

**Unit 4:** The Continental Thinker- Continental Thinkers concerned with its history.

**Unit 5:** Marxist Political-Thinking analysis of history, society, and the state.

**Unit 6:** The European Union-.in world affairs been established with the aim of ending persistent.

**Unit 7:** Sustainable development issues and challeng-. methodological issues about definitions and measurement of sustainable development.

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# UNIT - 1: THE EARLY POLITICAL THOUGHT

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## STRUCTURE

- 1.0 Objectives
  - 1.1 Introduction
  - 1.2 What is Political Thought?
  - 1.3 Difference between Political Thought, Theory and Political Philosophy
  - 1.4 The framework of Socrates, Plato
    - 1.4.1 Important Schools of Political Theory
    - 1.4.2 Issues in Western Political Thoughts
  - 1.5 The Republic and the Laws
  - 1.6 Aristotle
  - 1.7 Politics & Machiavelli: Republicanism and Humanism
  - 1.8 Characteristic of Western Political Thought
  - 1.9 Let Us Sum Up
  - 1.10 Keyword
  - 1.11 Questions for Review
  - 1.12 References and Suggested readings
  - 1.13 Answer to Check Your Progress

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## 1.0 OBJECTIVES

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- History of, Political thought is history oriented. It is the political history of a time. Political thought begins when there is an awareness of the possibility. The world in which we live today and will live tomorrow.
- The five elements Normative, Empirical, Institutional, Historical, and ideological. Introduction of Political science also known as political theory. The study of politics and power from domestic, international, and comparative perspectives is political science.
- Basically, understanding political ideologies, political system, process of behavior all group of people, class, government, diplomacy, law,

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strategy, war, liberty, justices, property rights and the power of enforcement laws by authority.

- The great thinker of Western thought had particular emphasis on political philosophy.
- Western philosophy is the philosophical tradition of the Western world and the great thinkers that has motivated to think the problem of social and political order. How human being can live together in harmony and avoid the danger of non - violence and fear of civil conflict.
- While some of political scholars believe that concepts are static, political thought asks how they are originated and to what effect. What steps should government take? What do citizens owe their government? When should citizens overthrow when there is an illegitimate government?
- Plato never speaks as a character in them, although as we know that he was present at the trial depicted in the Apology of Socrates and absent for the conversations of the Phaedo.

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## 1.1 INTRODUCTION

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Political thought begins once there's associate degree awareness of tile possibility of accomplishing various political arrangements from the current one. Ever since organized life began with the invention, of agriculture, slowly totally different varieties of political organizations began. preponderantly this kind was autocracy however the traditional Greek civilization was marked by a noteworthy form of political forms, mirrored by Aristotle's study of 158 constitutions and elaboration of the various typologies of political systems. It's for the prevalence of wide diversity and discussion that western political thought begins with the Greeks and continues until the current.

Political thought means that the 5 following things:

- a) Exposition of ideas, values and proposals for influencing policy, dynamical it and rewriting it drastically for total break and a brand-new

- starting. The whole classical tradition of western political thought provides a good selection handling the higher than propositions.
- b) Five ideology deals with political structure and establishments like dealing -with the theories of the state, 'division of power, legal frameworks, varied varieties of illustration and links with different social sciences.
  - c) Political philosophy within the normative go after what ought to be instead of what's during a massive macro framework.
  - d) Political thought may be a key element of the discipline of politics providing it the fundamental ideas and tools with those tile different sub-areas of the discipline are in and of it coupled.
  - e) Comparative studies of different kinds of political theories originating and expanding with, different civilizations like the western political thought, Indian or Chinese political thought.

The word theory refers to a body of logically collected and analyzed body of information. And Politics as we all know is regarding several things as well as relationships among people and teams and categories and therefore the state, and state establishments just like the judiciary, forms etc. Therefore, one definition of ideology given by David Weld sees ideology as a network of ideas and generalizations regarding political life involving concepts, assumptions and statements regarding the character, purpose and key options of state, state and society, and regarding the political capabilities of human beings. Andrew Hacker defines it as 'a combination of an impartial seek for the principles sensible of excellent of fine} state and good society on the one hand, and an impartial seek for information of political and social belongings on the other'.

Study of Public Administration and Different approaches Political Science is a comprehensive subject or field of study of which political theory is only a sub-field. Political Science includes everything: political thought, political theory, political philosophy, political ideology, institutional or structural

framework, comparative politics, public administration, international law, and organization, etc.

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## 1.2 WHAT IS POLITICAL THOUGHT?

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Political thought is the description of the political ideas of a host of political philosophers from beginning to the end. It is the sum-total of ideas on matters relating to politics, state and government as expressed by the thinkers. It is historical in nature because it is described as history. It analyses, examines and evaluates issues that have a universal concern and are of perennial interest even though each political respond to a particular political reality. It is written keeping the larger public in mind and is not confined to ivory towers for an intimate link is established between the political process, institutions, events and actors. Usually political theory flourishes in times of crises which act as stimulus though it is not necessary that all crises lead to political theorizing.

Political thought is the description, analysis, expression, and evaluation of the philosophies of the philosophies of a political tradition. It is a tradition in so far as it comes to us as a body of thought. It is the sum-total of what stays on, and an accumulation of what is changed and what continues. It is what keeps responding to our circumstances. What becomes outdated is not the part of the tradition.

Political thought attempts to identify values and norms and makes them an inseparable part of a particular political trend. Western political thought, if we wish to identify its magic themes, evolves and revolves around values such as liberty and libertarian, democracy and democratic tradition, equality and egalitarian. Political thought as it has existed and/or exists in India, for example, seeks to establish ethical/moral values in politics, spiritualism, cooperative living etc. It is written keeping the larger public in mind and is not confined to ivory towers for an intimate link is established between the political process, institutions, events and actors. Usually political theory

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Political thought is primarily the study of the 'state. Its studies society insofar as society influences the state as political life in the social life, though independent is inter-dependent. Similarly, it focuses on economics institutions and process insofar it influences the political order and process. It also takes into consideration ethical questions for ultimately it is concerned with a just and good political order.

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### **1.3 DIFFERENCE BETWEEN POLITICAL THOUGHT, THEORY AND POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY**

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Political theory is sometimes treated equally with political thought, but it is important to understand that they do not understand the meaning of the same thing. Political thought is a generalized term involving questions related to a group and state over a person or persons or a community or

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state. Any person expresses his views whether he is a professor, journalist, writer, novelist, poet, etc. and certainly if he is a politician who impacts our lives and he is concerned about state and governance and related questions. If he is, then he is getting entangled in political thought. His ideas may or may not include a theory if it is not a systematic logical hypothesis advanced to explain the historical and political phenomena related to the political governance of state and government. Political thought is thus always of individuals or groups whereas a political theory is one that is self-contained and self-explanatory or speculation or theory that attempts to answer questions and predict history and possible events in the future. Of course, this theory is always the creation of some individual thinkers. Barker remarked that while political thought is the imminent philosophy of an entire era, political theory is the imagination of a particular thinker.

### Check your progress 1

**Q1.** Describe political thought in your own words.

.....  
.....

**Q2.** What is the difference between Political Thought and Theory?

.....  
.....

### POLITICAL THEORY AND POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

Philosophy is really thinking on anything and everything in search of truth and knowledge. When this search is done on political subjects, we call it political philosophy. Therefore, it is not necessary to have a theory to propose and to distinguish between political philosophy and political thought. So, while political theory is a part of political philosophy, most political philosophy is very broad and does not necessarily include any theory.

Thus we can say that political philosophy is the study of fundamental questions about state, government, politics, freedom, justice, property, rights, law and enforcement of any legal code by law, etc.: what are they, why (or if ) They need, which legitimizes the government, what rights and freedoms it should protect and why, how it should be taken and why, what is the law and for which duty citizens are exempted from legitimate government, if any, and whether or not to be legally overthrown whenever possible. We often refer to "political philosophy" as a general approach, or a specific morality, belief, or point of view, about politics that does not necessarily relate to the entire technical discipline of philosophy.

Political philosophy is often related not to contemporary issues but to more universal issues in the political life of man. But a political theorist is mostly looking at contemporary political life and when he is interested in explaining the nature and purpose of the state and general questions, such as the realities of political behavior, to describe and understand the real relationship between the states is also watching.

Role of power in citizens and society.

While studying political science one feels that political theory should be complemented by political philosophy. Otherwise, it appears barren and irrelevant.

### **POLITICAL THEORY AND POLITICAL SCIENCE**

Political science is a broad subject or field of study in which political theory is only a subfield. Political science includes everything: political thought, political theory, political philosophy, political ideology, institutional or structural frameworks, comparative politics, public administration, international law, and organization, and more. Some thinkers have emphasized the science aspect of political science and they suggest that

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when political science is studied with scientific methods, political theory is to the extent that a part of political philosophy is not considered as political science. Because political science has no place for abstract intuitive conclusions or speculation, it depends on political philosophy.

Political theory is neither pure thought, nor pure philosophy, nor pure science.

### **SOME BASIC CHARACTER OF POLITICAL THEORY**

1. Political theory is usually built on the individual thinker based on his moral and intellectual position and, while formulating his theory, he is generally explaining the events, happenings and mysteries of the political life of mankind. The theory may or may not be considered true, but it can always be considered another theory. In general, we find that the political theory of an individual thinker is posed as a thinker in a classic work such as that of Plato in his Republic or A Theory of Justice.

2. A political theory attempts to give clarify questions related to mankind, the society formed by them and history and historical events in general. It also suggests ways to resolve conflicts and sometimes advocates for revolutions. Predictions are often made about the future.

3. Political theories thus sometimes provide not only explanations and predictions, but sometimes actively influence and participate in historical events, when they propose a particular type of political action and The line of action is widely adopted. The great positive liberal thinker Harold Laski remarked that the work of political theorists is not merely of the details, but also of what should happen.

4. Political theory is also generally discipline-based and it is thought that the subject of study will remain the same as theorist, philosopher, historian, economist, theologian or sociologist etc.

5. Political principles are also often the basis of an entire ideology. Liberal theories became the basis of liberalism and Marx's theory became the basis of Marxist socialist ideology. A political theorist proposed by a thinker usually also reflects the political ideology of the thinker. This is why when there are conflicts between ideologies, it debates the principles underlying those ideologies.

### **ISSUES IN POLITICAL THEORY**

Issues that have gained prominence in political theory have changed over time. Classical and early political theory was mainly concerned with the discovery of a morally perfect political system and focused on questions such as the nature and purpose of the state, on the basis of which political authority should be exercised and the problem of political disobedience. The rise of the modern nation-state and changes in the economic structure and the Industrial Revolution gave rise to new priorities and focused on individualism and freedom of its relationship with the individual and society and the state. Issues such as rights, duties, liberty, equality and property became more important. Gradually it also became important that the relationship between one concept and another such as freedom and equality or, justice and freedom or, equality and property.

### **RELEVANCE OF POLITICAL THEORY**

We as human beings live together as social beings and societies where we share resources, jobs and rewards. We are also individuals who need some basic human rights. Therefore, the process of mobilizing the state and society becomes important for maximizing harmony and prosperity and allowing conditions for individual self-realization. It is therefore important to facilitate the unity and integrity of human society or the collective needs of society political theory to try and find solutions to problems in the process. Relevance lies in developing different approaches to the nature and purpose of the state, the basis of political authority and the best form of government, in terms of the relationship between the state and the individual

**Notes**

in terms of their fundamental rights. Apart from this, political theory also seeks to recognize the moral value of a political state and to establish moral norms to suggest alternative political systems and practices.

**In short, the relevance of political theory lies in the following:**

- In explaining and providing details of political event
- helps in selecting political goals and actions for a community and
- helps provide the basis for ethical decision making.

Furthermore, it has to be remembered that states face challenges of poverty, corruption, overpopulation, and ethnic and racial tensions, environmental pollution, etc., at least in contemporary times. This is not to mention international problems like conflicts etc. To study the present and future problems of the political life of the society and suggest solutions to deal with those problems. David Held remarks that the work of a political theorist is too great in its complexity because, in the absence of systematic study, there is a danger that politics will be left to ignorant and self-seeking people who are in search of power. Thus, if one has to think systematically about the nature and purpose of the state and the problems of government in view of the socio-political reality and to keep ideals and political philosophy in mind, one has to follow the path of principle.

**Check your progress 2**

Q3. What is the major issue in political theory?

.....  
.....

Q4. Write down the Basic Character of Political Theory.

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## 1.4 THE FRAMEWORK OF SOCRATES, PLATO

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Politics refers to political activity. It is an activity that helps a citizen to participate in the structure and functioning of government. It is an activity that helps political parties to seek people and then govern. It is an activity through which political power is sought, maintained. It is the activity of manipulation and bargaining to gain and exercise power. Therefore, it is rightly called an art of the possible.

Politics is thought of. When we move politics from its uniqueness to comprehensiveness, we enter the field of political thought; When we take politics from its fleeting and day-to-day form to its long-term and sustainable form, we lay the foundation for political thought. Political thought answers, in general, to questions related to politics, the state, political activities, state policies, and its functions, to various political philosophers, over the years. It tries to find permanent or proximate solutions to the problems of the state facing politics. Political thought not only discusses the state, but also its highest form; It examines various theories of the origins of the state, not only through the philosophy of political thinkers. It seeks to develop a coherent theory about the origin of the state that appeals to our argument. The day-to-day issues relating to the nature of the state, form of government, the function of the state, political power become issues to be discussed by the political philosophers. References to Machiavelli's emergent questions became specific questions of statecraft for the protection of the ruler. Marx's attempt to analyze capitalism is a question of politics, but in the process of analysis, if Marx builds a socialist and communist society after capitalism, it becomes part of political thought.

Political thought derives data from politics. Politics introduces political activities for discussion by thinkers. Political thought, and on the other hand, gives direction to activities related to politics. For example, politics during the Stuart periods in England, became the basis upon which Hobbes

and Locke built their philosophy, Hobbes tried to prioritize freedom and the right of Locke, creating just the reverse, that is, giving rights to freedom. Marx analyzed and studied capitalism and tried to get more truth in the process, and after that keeping in mind the medieval and early history, was not only trying to know the function of the movements of capitalism, but A new vision of political thought was also created, known as the materialistic interpretation of history. Political philosophers are born in a particular political environment; They study the atmosphere and, in turn, create a new political environment, a new philosophy.

### 1.4.1 Important Schools of Political Theory

The most important schools of political thought that have stood in importance and have stood the test of time to say:

1. Classical Political Theory
2. Liberal Political Theory
3. Marxist Political Theory
4. Empirical Scientific Political Theory
5. Contemporary Political Theory

**Classical political theory:** Political theories beginning in the 6th century BC. And developed through the Greeks, Romans and early European Christian thinkers and philosophers known as Classical Political Principles. Among the Greeks, Plato and Aristotle are two thinkers who are studied and have great influence to date. Philosophy was deeply dominated by classical political theory and the whole focus was on taking a holistic approach to discovering the most general truth. Therefore, there was no clear distinction between philosophical, religious and political issues and political science or the idea was not separately recognized as a discipline. Political theory was concerned with investigating issues, asking important questions, and serving as a defender of the conscience of politics. The underlying discovery was to reach the best possible form of government. The state and government were also seen as a tool for realizing the moral goals of man and society and

promoting the good. Thus, the state was supposed to work as some kind of promoter to promote high moral standards among the members of the community. There was some debate about whether personal good should be a priority or a general good.

**Liberal Political Theory:** With the historical period referred to in Europe as the Renaissance and the Reformation, which was followed by the Industrial Revolution, the dominance of the classical tradition ended. This new philosophical wave was led by Hobbs, Locke, Thomas, Jefferson, Thomas Penn, Jeremy Bentham, JS Just as thinkers did. Mill, Herbert Spencer and a host of other authors. The main thrust of the liberal tradition was the rights of the individual and the state was regarded as a contract only to benefit from conflict resolution mechanisms between individuals that provide for the rule of law. The main objective of the state in the liberal tradition is to help individuals realize their fundamental inalienable rights. In fact, liberal thinkers went on to say that when the basic contractual relationship between the individual and the state is breached, individuals have not only the right, but the responsibility to revolt and establish a new government. Social control is best protected by law. The new liberal principles also rejected the idea of the common good and a biological community and instead advocated that government should rule as little as possible for supreme rights and to free it from political, social and economic sanctions as much as possible. needed.

**Marxist Political Theory:** The fundamental changes that resulted from the Industrial Revolution brought inequality and a large section of poor industrial workers emerged. The basic liberal position supporting total economic freedom was challenged by Karl Marx and Engels and their followers, who proposed in the late nineteenth century what they called 'scientific socialism'. Socialism predated Marx's theory, but he gave it a strong theoretical foundation. Marx introduced a new way of looking at the history up to that time and suggested that the task of knowledge is not only to understand the world, but to change to improve the social life of

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mankind. For him, he suggested a revolutionary path. He suggested that in order to win the basics of life for its emancipation, the working class must handle the means of production and the means of production must be controlled by the state. This acquisition would need to happen through the revolution he suggested as the upper class would use the power of the state to crush any effort for the liberation and liberation of the lower classes.

Marxism also states that rights, freedom, equality, justice and democracy are enjoyed only by the rich and virtuous classes in capitalist liberal democracies as the state is controlled by the upper classes, who use the institutions of the state as a tool for class exploitation Do as. He believed that genuine freedom and equality can only be achieved in a classless and stateless society. Thus, while liberal theory provided the theoretical basis for the capitalist free market system, Marxist political theory provided the basis for the establishment of a socialist state through revolutionary action.

**Empirical-Scientific Political Theory:** According to this new school of thought the task of political theory is to formulate and organize the concept of the science of political behavior in which empirical research is emphasized more than political philosophy. Behavioral scientists suggested that a political theorist should articulate and critique systems of concepts that have a specific relevance to political behavior.

Behavioral schools differed fundamentally from all previous schools because they suggested that the function of political theory is only to explain political phenomena and to explain further than that and to predict the future. It is not to make philosophical and moral decisions.

### 1.4.2 Issues in Western Political Thoughts

Western political thought, since its inception from ancient Greece, has had to deal with a wide variety of issues, and each philosopher has governed

them from his own angle. In fact, the political philosophers have, at times, disagreed over the solutions, but what is important is the continuation of the issues that have captured their intentions. The major issues related to politics (i.e. the content of the Western political tradition) have been a concern of political philosophers. By attempting to find solutions to these political issues, political theorists have not only given Western political thought a direction, but also a unity of thought processes. The importance of Western political thought lies in the attempt by political philosophers to recognize political issues, and provide solutions, thus providing political ideas with meaning and a vision. Sheldon says, "This designation of certain activities and systems is political, the way we think about them, and the concepts.

We work to communicate our comments and reactions ... none of which is written like things, but is a legacy arising from the historical activity of political philosophers. He calls these political issues: the power relationship between government and the subject, nature. Problems created by political authority, social conflicts, the aims and objectives of political activities, and the character and utility of political knowledge.

Works on political theory have been written by political philosophers from time to time, and belong to a particular time, and yet they are timeless. They are timeless because they live all the time and are beyond their time. They are timeless because they are relevant in all ages — ages, present and future. They are timeless because they highlight problems that are problems for the time to come: corruption in politics was a problem in Plato's time, and it is still a problem today. The tasks are timeless as they deal with issues faced in every era. They are timeless because the subjects they touch reflect in all situations at all times. They are timeless because they live forever.

Work on political theory is not outstanding because what is expressed in it is original, a 'who called it first' type. All the words did not belong to them, such as 'class', terms class struggle, 'proletariat', i.e. bourgeoisie '.

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revolution ', 'surplus value ', which Marx used, Isaiah Berlin says. The person who used them, because they have been used before by many scholars. But that was not what goes to Marx's credit. Marx's contribution to giving these words new and definite meaning lies, and above all, a new political idea built upon them. What is original may be an important factor, but what is important is an understanding of a political situation and giving to the world, a new interpretation. This is where Mam is of importance to any political philosopher, and for that matter.

Political texts have contributed greatly to the development of specialized language expressed through words, symbols, concepts, and have become the terminology of political, philosophy. The concept of 'common will' used by Russo is an example of such terminology. The state of nature ', and civilized society' and words like these are other examples, these works done in politics by many philosophers have enriched our literature.

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## **1.5 THE REPUBLIC AND THE LAWS**

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As this observation makes clear, the center of Plato's republic is a contribution to morality: a discussion of what virtue justice is and why a person should be just. Yet because Socrates links his discussion of individual justice to an account of justice in the city and claims how good and bad cities are arranged, the Republic also considers political questions. Not that morality and politics end the concerns of the Republic. The account in books seven through seven is how an equitable city and a person are in possible theory is an account of how knowledge can govern, including discussion of which knowledge and its objects. In addition, the poets' indictment includes extensive discussion of art. This article, however, focuses on the ethics and politics of the Republic of Plato.

This article attempts to provide a constructive guide to the main issues of ethics and politics in the Republic. Two assumptions shape their organization. First, it assumes that Socrates requires an initial understanding

of the question for an account of ethics and politics in the Republic, and Socrates uses tactics to answer the question. Second, it assumes that politics in the Republic is based on moral psychology in the Republic, and that the former is discussed more profitably than the latter.

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## **1.6 ARISTOTLE**

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Plato an aristocrat by both birth and temperament was born in democratic Athens, at a time when it was engaged in a deadly war against Sparta-The Peloponnesian War. The war lasted for about 28 years and resulted in the fall of Athens. On his father's side, Plato traced his descent from Codrus, the last of the tribal kings of Athens, or even from the god Poseidon, and on the mother's side, from that of Solon, the great law-giver.

Plato was a child, when his father, Ariston, died, and his mother Perictione married Perilampids, an associate of Pericles, the statesman. As a young man, Plato had political ambitions, but he became a disciple of Socrates, accepting his basic philosophy and dialectical style of debate: the pursuit of truth through discussions and dialogues. In fact, Plato was disillusioned the way things were going around. He was invited to join public life when the Spartan government, the Rule of Thirty.

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Rule of Thirty, and later by the returned democratic faction, the former entrapping Socrates on charges of corrupting the youth, and the latter executing him on charges of impiety. All this convinced Plato that all politics are evil if not given proper management and direction. Plato himself writes in the Seventh Letter, supposed to be his autobiography, saying: ‘eager though I had been at first to go into. After Socrates' execution in 399 BC, Plato, fearing for his safety, and in all disillusionment, set himself for long travels temporarily abroad to Italy, Sicily, and Egypt.

Generally speaking, a citizen is' one who has the power to participate in the intentional or judicial administration of any state 'and for this purpose he has defined a state which means a body of citizens. Enough for life '. According to him the aim of the citizen is the salvation of the community.

Place, legal capacity, birth, and upbringing - as markers of static qualities and/or status - do not demonstrate the ability of citizenship in Aristotle's view. He has linked the concept of citizenship to the activities of a citizen rather than to any social status. He defined community as a constitution and, sharing in a constitution, he said that it seems that one is eligible for citizenship. Thus, Aristotle's emphasis on activity is a self-contained trait and practicing citizenship, he says, makes one a citizen. He also explicitly stated that a person cannot play the role of a citizen (and is, therefore, a citizen) in a void but a specific community system or governance. Therefore, Aristotle pursues his investigation of citizenship and asks who is the citizen or elite of democracy. Being a citizen is regime-dependent because sharing in a constitution largely depends on the laws, education and other social and political institutions of that particular constitution. These "externalities" contribute to making all citizens. Thus, in his view, citizenship is a complex combination on the part of civil practitioners and the part of social and political institutions.

Civic identity is, then, a product of doing and making, where doing is a kind of self-making (by sharing in the constitution, makes oneself a citizen) and

dictated by law, education, and other institutions. Accident and force must be excluded when examining the nature of the citizen because they make irrelevant what is at the heart of both forms of civil identity: the dynamic and interpersonal relationship between identity and action between the doer and the karma. Citizens are shared not only by their particular or individual activities but in a constitution, in other words, their collective activity. Civil activity creates social and political institutions that contribute to giving citizens in the first place. If acting as citizens is the job of citizens then they do so not only in their activities but also in their collective action by which they create social and political institutions for themselves which in turn helps to create them. Citizenship is a matter of individual self-determination activity and is participation. By collective action, sharing in their constitution, citizens help create institutions that, as institutions, guide them, but do not fully determine their activity. As a product of civic activities, these institutions become legitimate and thus binding on each citizen and the entire community.

Aristotle excluded women, working farmers, shopkeepers, artisans, mechanics, and citizens from slavery. For example, when dealing with citizens who should be enslaved, they have pushed aside who have been enslaved by accident or force. Aristotle makes the same conclusion in the case of slavery as he draws in the case of citizenship: if a citizen is a citizen being a citizen, he is also a slave to being a slave. If being a citizen is to be understood in terms of civil activity, then being a slave is to be understood in terms of slave activity. If the activities are (how this is directed by social and political entities, but nothing accidental, forced, or biological) defined the nature of a citizen.

The activities of a slave become a slave.

Aristotle said about the qualities of a citizen that a citizen should know how to govern and how to obey. Citizens have to participate in governance and therefore must have the requisite knowledge and capability. He incorporated

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the excellence of a citizen from both a ruler and a ruler into the 'knowledge of rule over the freeman'. He believed that one who has never obeyed can never be a good commander and a good citizen should be capable of both.

Aristotle's plan consists only of those who are financially independent men with the experience, education and dedication to active participation in the duties of a citizen. Furthermore, he argued that all citizens need to govern and should be governed in turn. He argued that equality is the need to treat all individuals equally but equally. This is justice. Therefore, one citizen was equal to another citizen and should be treated in the same way, but a slave is only equal to another slave and needs to treat the other slave equally, therefore not a citizen. He also said that the ownership of property should be reserved only for the citizens as they need to live in good conditions and women and slaves and mechanics and others who are not producers of the property can have no share of the property.

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## **1.7 POLITICS & MACHIAVELLI: REPUBLICANISM AND HUMANISM**

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Among his two most important works, "Prince" is an analysis of the political system of a strong monarchy, while "Discoveries on Lives" of a strong republic. In the first one, the theme is a princely successful creation. By one person, in another, it is the creation of a kingdom of migrating citizens. But in both, the center of his thought is the method of those who wield the ultimate power of power rather than the original relation of the state in which the essence state exists. He looked at things from the ruler's perspective and patronized the state, not the governed, but the excellence of its constitution was its main idea. He writes about tiles. The mechanisms of governments by which state calls are strengthened. And politics that can expand its powers. Errors also point to a strong collapse. In the words of Sabine: "The purpose of politics is to preserve and increase political power, and the standard is fully judged by its success in doing so. It is often used efficiently to achieve the ends of the ruler. Discusses the benefit of morality

that is known, and it is one that is primarily responsible for its evil. But for the most part, Italian as non-moral the stem is not immoral." One thing that would be immoral. For a person, if necessary, can be done by the ruler or emperor, in the interest of the state, as appropriate. Their indifference to morality can, therefore, be explained in terms of political expediency.

he terms republicanism did not exist in the classical period itself, but the word was Publica, which means "public thing" or "public matter". During this period many theorists were writing on political philosophy, such as Aristotle, Polybius, and Cicero, and their ideas became the essential core of classical republicanism. The ideology of Republicanism blossomed during the Italian Renaissance, most notably in Florence when many writers looked back to the classical period and used their examples to form ideas about ideal governance. Among his later reflections was Niccol Machiavelli (1469–1527) who was said to have resumed classical republicanism.

### **CONCEPTION OF BARON**

"Civilian Humanism" in its original incarnation meant to further develop Meineke's project exploring the intellectual roots of Machiavelli's in the soil. The Italian humanist thought. To show the relevance of humanists to Machiavelli, the Baron needed to correct a misconception of mankind that prevailed. In his time (eventually derived from Burkhardt): that humanists were rootless Literacy, metropolitan people who traveled from court to court, had little interest. No commitment to politics and any political ideology. It was normal to dismiss them Saying that his influence of copying ancient writers made him irretrievable, Unknowingly and unread: "having nothing to say, they called it endless" as a historian of the time he was the epigone of the long-dead Masters, Out of History, Unpolite Menschen. Against this view, Baron argued -Primarily based on his study of Leonardo Bruni - that a central current the humanitarian movement, within civilian humanism, was indeed highly patriotic and committed to a Republican idea. Civilian humanism was the opposite of cosmopolitanism.

Civilian humanists expanded a republican political ideology State, not religious right, value font. Civilian humanist ideology of Quattrocento represented the opposite of a feudal, considered other ideology Inherited from the

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## 1.8 CHARACTERISTIC OF WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT

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It is a classic because it is "through itself" class, "A. First rank and work of acknowledged excellence ". Classics in Plato's works have been associated with Marx in political thought. world classics indicates 'conversation of many voices', 'a dialogue' Dissemination of attitudes and interpretations of reality as a work. Work on political theory is written through political Philosophers from time to time, and belong to clear time, and yet they are timeless. They are timeless because they live and live all the time Beyond his time. They are timeless because they are relevant in all eras, present, and future. They are timeless because they expose troubles Which are troubles for the time to come: Corruption in politics was one the problem in Plato's time, and it is still a problem today. Tasks are is timeless because they deal with issues faced in every era. They are timeless because the subjects they touch reflect in all situations at all times. They are timeless because they live forever. Work on political theory is not outstanding because what is the original expressed in it is, 'one who said it was the first kind'. All such terms as 'class', 'emphasis about class', 'proletariat', 'bourgeoisie', 'revolution', 'surplus' Price ', which Marx used, says Isaiah Berlin, they were not his, that is, he was not the first person who used them, because they have been used through many scholars first. But that was not what goes to Marx's credit. Marx's contribution There is a new political meaning in giving a new and definite meaning to these situations.

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## 1.9 LET US SUM UP

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Political thought can be understood as a description of political thought from the ancient Greeks as a loss of political philosophy if we are trying to find out what it is in the West. It is the aggregate of ideas as matters relating to politics, state and government which are presented by thinkers from time to time. It is a description of the idea of political theorists. It is like the West, a history, a tradition and a culture. It is not a complete political science because it denies its historical basis. It is historical, logical, ideological, inseparable and methodological. Western political thought is rich in its content. It has helped to follow political processes, utility of political institutions. It has given Western tradition values such as democracy, nationalism, freedom, justice and all the two parallel pillars - idealism and realism, on which most political theories rest with theorists. Work. Western political theory is objective, enlightened, ethical and instructive. Wolin Finale; "... Since the history of political philosophy is ... an intellectual development in which successive thinkers have added new dimensions to the analysis and understanding of politics, in examining that development it is not so old of political education.

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### 1.10 KEYWORDS

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1. **Revolutions:** Revolution has been central to the formation of the modern world.
2. **Republicanism:** republicanism & recognition theory are significant currents in relations between citizens and state.
3. **Statesman:** an experienced politician, especially one who is respected for making good judgments.
4. **Dialectical:** a way of discovering what is true by considering opposite theories.
5. **Fundamentally:** forming the base, from which everything else develops.

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## 1.11 QUESTIONS FOR REVIEW

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- 1) What is political thought? Distinguish political thought from political theory and political philosophy?
- 2) Describe the nature of the western political thought.
- 3) What are, in your opinion, the major contents of political thought?
- 4) Amplify the significance and relevance of western political thought.
- 5) In what way does Machiavelli's works reflect his times'?
- 6) Critically analyze Machiavelli's Political theories.

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## 1.12 REFERENCES AND SUGGESTED READINGS

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- 1) Iain Hampshire Monk, A History of Modern Political Thought
- 2) David Boucher and Paul Kelly (eds.), Political thinkers from Socrates to the Present
- 3) C.B. Macpherson, The Political theory of Possessive Individualism: Hobbes to Locke
- 4) Leo Strauss, Thoughts on Machiavelli
- 5) David McLellan, The Thought of Karl Marx.

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## 1.13 ANSWER TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

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I. 1. Political thought is the description of the political ideas of a host of political philosophers from beginning to the end. It is the sum-total of ideas on matters relating to politics, state and government as expressed by the thinkers. It is historical in nature because it is described as history. It analyses, examines and evaluates issues that have a universal concern and are of perennial interest even though each political theorist responds to a particular political reality. It is written keeping the larger public in mind and is not confined to ivory towers for an intimate link is established between

the political process, institutions, events and actors.....(answer for Check your Progress-1 Q.1)

2. Political theory is sometimes treated equally with political thought, but it is important to understand that they do not understand the meaning of the same thing. Political thought is a generalized term involving questions related to a group and state over a person or persons or a community or state. Any person expresses his views whether he is a professor, journalist, writer, novelist, poet, etc. and certainly if he is a politician who impacts our lives and he is concerned about state and governance and related questions.....(answer for Check your Progress-1 Q.2)

II. 3. Issues that have gained prominence in political theory have changed over time. Classical and early political theory was mainly concerned with the discovery of a morally perfect political system and focused on questions such as the nature and purpose of the state, on the basis of which political authority should be exercised and the problem of political disobedience. The rise of the modern nation-state and changes in the economic structure and the Industrial Revolution gave rise to new priorities and focused on individualism and freedom of its relationship with the individual and society and the state. Issues such as rights, duties, liberty, equality and property became more important.....(answer for Check your Progress-2 Q.3)

4. A political theory attempts to give clarify questions related to mankind, the society formed by them and history and historical events in general. It also suggests ways to resolve conflicts and sometimes advocates for revolutions. Predictions are often made about the future.

Political theories thus sometimes provide not only explanations and predictions, but sometimes actively influence and participate in historical events, when they propose a particular type of political action and The line of action is widely adopted. The great positive liberal thinker Harold Laski remarked that the work of political theorists is not merely of the details, but also of what should happen. ....(answer for Check your Progress-2 Q.4)

## Notes