

1) What is Political? – Introduction to Political Science | +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020) Complete Notes

Title

Learn "What is Political?" for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020). Complete notes with meaning, definitions, characteristics, examples, importance, and key thinkers.

+3 POLITICAL SCIENCE HONOURS (NEP 2020)

What is Political?

– Introduction to Political Science

COMPLETE NOTES

- Meaning of Political
- Nature of Politics
- Scope of Political Science
- Politics in Everyday Life
- Key Concepts & Definitions

INCLUDES

- ✓ Easy Explanation
- ✓ Exam Oriented
- ✓ Important Points
- ✓ NEP 2020 Based
- ✓ Perfect for +3 Honours Students

**UNDERSTAND POLITICS
UNDERSTAND THE WORLD**

**BUILD KNOWLEDGE
SHAPE YOUR FUTURE**

STUDY | ANALYZE | GOVERN

What is Political? – Introduction to Political Science (+3 Political Science Honours NEP 2020)

Political Science is one of the oldest and most important branches of social science. It studies the state, government, power, authority, political institutions, public policies, rights, duties, and the relationship between citizens and the government. Before understanding Political Science in detail, students must first understand a fundamental question:

"What is Political?"

The concept of "Political" is broader than politics alone. It covers every activity related to power, decision-making, governance, public welfare, justice, and collective life. Under the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**, Political Science encourages students to understand politics from both traditional and modern perspectives.

This article provides complete study notes for +3 **Political Science Honours students** following the **Model Curriculum based on NEP 2020**.

Meaning of Political

The word **Political** comes from the Greek word "**Polis**," meaning **City-State**.

Ancient Greek philosopher **Aristotle** used the term "Polis" to describe an organized community where citizens lived together under laws and participated in governance.

Thus, the word Political refers to:

- Activities related to government
- Distribution of power
- Decision-making
- Public administration
- Law and order
- Public welfare
- Relations among citizens

In simple words,

Political means everything related to governing society and making decisions that affect people's lives.

Definition of Political

Different political thinkers have explained the meaning of political in different ways.

Aristotle

Aristotle called human beings "**Political Animals.**"

According to him,

"Man is by nature a political animal."

This means humans naturally live in society, form governments, make laws, and cooperate with one another.

Harold Lasswell

Harold Lasswell defined politics as

"Who gets What, When, and How."

This definition explains that politics is concerned with the distribution of resources, opportunities, and power.

David Easton

David Easton defined politics as

"The authoritative allocation of values for society."

According to Easton, governments make authoritative decisions regarding education, healthcare, taxation, employment, and welfare.

Max Weber

Max Weber believed politics involves

The struggle for power or influencing the distribution of power.

Power plays an important role in every political system.

What Makes an Activity Political?

An activity becomes political when it includes one or more of the following:

- Decision-making
- Public interest
- Government involvement
- Authority
- Law-making
- Distribution of resources
- Conflict resolution
- Public policy
- Leadership
- Exercise of power

For example:

- Parliament passing a law
- Election campaigns
- Government welfare schemes
- Reservation policies
- Tax collection
- Local Panchayat meetings

All these are political activities.

Characteristics of Political

The concept of Political has several important characteristics.

1. Concerned with Society

Political activities affect society as a whole rather than individuals alone.

Example:

Government education policy benefits millions of students.

2. Related to Power

Power is the heart of politics.

Political leaders, governments, and institutions use power to make decisions.

3. Decision-Making Process

Politics involves choosing among different alternatives.

Example:

Whether to increase taxes or reduce taxes.

4. Public Interest

Political decisions usually aim to promote public welfare.

Examples include:

- Health schemes
 - Road construction
 - Employment programs
 - Education reforms
-

5. Conflict Resolution

Different groups have different interests.

Politics provides peaceful methods to resolve conflicts through:

- Laws
 - Courts
 - Elections
 - Negotiations
-

6. Collective Nature

Political activities involve groups rather than isolated individuals.

Examples include:

- Political parties
 - Trade unions
 - Student organizations
 - Social movements
-

7. Authority and Legitimacy

Political decisions are backed by legal authority.

Citizens generally obey laws because they are considered legitimate.

Scope of Political

The meaning of political extends beyond governments.

Today it includes:

State

The organization exercising sovereign authority.

Government

The machinery responsible for administration.

Political Institutions

Such as:

- Parliament
 - Judiciary
 - Executive
 - Election Commission
-

Political Parties

Organizations competing for political power.

Public Administration

Implementation of government policies.

International Politics

Relations among different countries.

Public Policy

Government decisions affecting society.

Human Rights

Protection of individual freedoms and dignity.

Civil Society

NGOs, pressure groups, media, and citizen organizations.

Traditional View of Political

Traditional political thinkers mainly focused on:

- State
- Government
- Constitution
- Law
- Sovereignty

Important traditional scholars include:

- Plato
- Aristotle
- Hobbes
- Locke
- Rousseau

In this view, politics mainly concerned the functioning of the State.

Modern View of Political

Modern political scientists believe politics exists everywhere.

Politics occurs in:

- Families
- Schools
- Universities
- Offices
- Corporations
- Religious institutions
- International organizations

Modern scholars emphasize:

- Power
- Behaviour
- Participation
- Decision-making
- Political culture
- Political communication

Political and Power

Power is central to politics.

Power means the ability to influence others or make them act according to one's wishes.

There are different forms of power:

- Political power
- Economic power
- Social power
- Military power
- Ideological power

Governments exercise political power through laws and institutions.

Political and Authority

Authority is legitimate power.

People obey authority because they believe it is lawful.

Examples:

- Police
- Judges
- District Collectors
- Governors
- Prime Minister
- President

Authority differs from force because authority is accepted voluntarily under legal rules.

Political and Government

Government is one of the most important political institutions.

Functions include:

- Making laws
- Maintaining law and order
- Providing security
- Collecting taxes
- Delivering welfare services
- Protecting fundamental rights

Without government, organized political life becomes difficult.

Political and Democracy

Democracy is one of the most important political systems.

Its political features include:

- Free elections
- Rule of law
- Freedom of speech
- Citizen participation
- Accountability
- Transparency

India is the world's largest democracy, where citizens actively participate in political life through elections and civic engagement.

Political in Everyday Life

Politics is not limited to Parliament.

Political activities occur daily.

Examples include:

- Voting during elections
- Paying taxes
- Following traffic rules
- Participating in student union elections
- Joining public protests
- Discussing government policies
- Community development programs

Thus, politics influences every citizen's life.

Importance of Studying Political Science

Studying political concepts helps students:

- Understand democratic values.
 - Know their constitutional rights and duties.
 - Develop critical thinking.
 - Participate responsibly in governance.
 - Understand public policies.
 - Analyze national and international issues.
 - Prepare for civil service and competitive examinations.
 - Become informed and responsible citizens.
-

Relevance under NEP 2020

The **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020** promotes:

- Critical thinking
- Problem-solving
- Constitutional values
- Ethical leadership

- Multidisciplinary learning
- Research orientation
- Civic responsibility

The study of "What is Political?" forms the foundation for understanding advanced topics such as political theory, comparative politics, public administration, governance, international relations, and public policy.

Key Features of Political (Quick Revision)

- Political originates from the Greek word **Polis**.
 - Politics concerns power, governance, and public decision-making.
 - Political activities affect society collectively.
 - Power and authority are central concepts.
 - Government is the main political institution.
 - Politics exists in both public and private spheres.
 - Democracy promotes citizen participation.
 - Political Science develops informed and responsible citizens.
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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1. What is Political?

Political refers to all activities related to power, governance, public decision-making, law, authority, and the management of society.

Q2. Who called man a political animal?

The Greek philosopher **Aristotle** described humans as "political animals" because people naturally live in organized communities and participate in governance.

Q3. What is the origin of the word Political?

The word Political is derived from the Greek word "**Polis**," meaning **City-State**.

Q4. Why is power important in politics?

Power enables governments and political institutions to make decisions, enforce laws, allocate resources, and maintain order in society.

Q5. What is the difference between power and authority?

Power is the ability to influence or control others, while authority is power that is accepted as legitimate and lawful by society.

Conclusion

The concept of "**What is Political?**" is the cornerstone of Political Science. It extends far beyond elections or political parties, encompassing the study of power, governance, justice, public policy, institutions, and collective decision-making. From Aristotle's idea of humans as political beings to modern perspectives that examine power in every sphere of life, understanding the political helps students analyze how societies are organized and governed.

For **+3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)** students, mastering this foundational concept is essential for exploring advanced topics such as political theory, constitutional studies, comparative politics, public administration, and international relations. A strong grasp of this subject also nurtures informed, responsible, and active citizens who can contribute meaningfully to a democratic society.

2) Political Philosophy, Political Theory, and Political Science – Complete Notes for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)

eSikhya : Political Philosophy, Political Theory and Political Science – Complete Notes | BA Political Science Honours NEP 2020

Title

Learn the meaning, definitions, scope, differences, characteristics, and relationship between Political Philosophy, Political Theory, and Political Science for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020).

POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL THEORY, POLITICAL SCIENCE

Understanding the Foundations, Concepts & Scientific Study of Politics

POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY	POLITICAL THEORY	POLITICAL SCIENCE
<i>The study of fundamental questions about justice, power, rights, freedom, equality and the good society.</i> FOCUS - Normative and value-based - Deals with principles and ideals - Asks what ought to be KEY QUESTIONS - What is justice? - What is a just society? - What are rights and duties? - What is the ideal form of government? EXAMPLES / THINKERS Plato, Aristotle, John Locke, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Karl Marx, Mahatma Gandhi	<i>The systematic study and analysis of political ideas, concepts and institutions.</i> FOCUS - Analytical and conceptual - Deals with ideas and their relationships - Explains how political systems work in theory KEY QUESTIONS - What is the state? - How does power operate? - What is sovereignty? - What are the elements of a government? EXAMPLES / THINKERS Aristotle, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, J.S. Mill, Hegel	<i>The empirical and systematic study of political phenomena, institutions and behaviour using scientific methods.</i> FOCUS - Empirical and scientific - Deals with facts, data and behaviour - Asks what is KEY QUESTIONS - How do governments function in reality? - What are political behaviour and patterns? - What are the causes of political events? - How do institutions impact society? EXAMPLES / APPROACHES David Easton, Gabriel Almond, Robert Dahl, Harold Lasswell

AT A GLANCE

	POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY	POLITICAL THEORY	POLITICAL SCIENCE
Basis	Values, ethics, ideals	Ideas, concepts, principles	Facts, data, behaviour
Nature	Normative	Analytical	Empirical
Approach	Speculative, critical	Conceptual, logical	Scientific, systematic
Goal	To discover what ought to be	To understand how politics works in theory	To explain what is and predict what may be

IN SHORT

“

- Political Philosophy asks – What should be?
- Political Theory asks – How does it work?
- Political Science asks – What is happening?

”

★ Together, they help us understand politics in its ideal form, theoretical foundation and real-world practice.

KNOW POLITICS | SHAPE SOCIETY

Political Philosophy, Political Theory, and Political Science

Political Science is a broad discipline that studies the **state, government, politics, power, authority, public policy, political institutions, and the relationship between citizens and the state**. Within Political Science, two important branches are **Political Philosophy** and **Political Theory**. Although these terms are often used interchangeably, they have distinct meanings, objectives, and methods of study.

Understanding the relationship between Political Philosophy, Political Theory, and Political Science is essential for **+3 Political Science Honours students** under the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**, as these concepts provide the foundation for the study of democracy, governance, justice, liberty, equality, rights, political institutions, and public administration.

This article explains these concepts in detail with definitions, features, scope, importance, differences, examples, and examination-oriented notes.

What is Political Philosophy?

Political Philosophy is the branch of Political Science that studies **fundamental political values, ideals, and ethical principles**. It seeks to answer questions about how society should be organized and what constitutes a just political order.

Political Philosophy is primarily **normative**, meaning it focuses on what **ought to be** rather than what actually exists.

It examines questions such as:

- What is justice?
 - What is the ideal state?
 - Why should people obey laws?
 - What is liberty?
 - What are rights?
 - What is equality?
 - What is the best form of government?
-

Definitions of Political Philosophy

Plato

Plato believed that politics should aim to establish **justice** through the rule of wise philosopher-kings.

Aristotle

Aristotle considered Political Philosophy as the study of the **good life** and the **best possible state** that enables citizens to achieve happiness and virtue.

John Rawls

Modern philosopher John Rawls viewed political philosophy as the search for **justice as fairness**, where social and political institutions ensure equal opportunities and protect individual rights.

Characteristics of Political Philosophy

Political Philosophy possesses several distinctive features.

1. Normative Nature

It focuses on ideals and values, discussing what politics **should be** rather than describing existing political systems.

2. Ethical Foundation

Political Philosophy is closely connected with ethics and moral reasoning. It evaluates political institutions based on principles such as justice, equality, liberty, and fairness.

3. Idealistic Approach

It seeks to imagine the best possible political system and proposes models for an ideal society.

4. Universal Perspective

Political Philosophy addresses questions that are relevant across different societies and historical periods.

5. Rational Inquiry

Arguments in Political Philosophy rely on logic, reasoning, and philosophical analysis rather than empirical observation alone.

Scope of Political Philosophy

Political Philosophy includes the study of:

- Justice
 - Liberty
 - Equality
 - Rights
 - Democracy
 - Sovereignty
 - Citizenship
 - Authority
 - Power
 - Law
 - Political obligation
 - Human rights
 - Welfare state
 - Social contract
 - Ideal government
-

Importance of Political Philosophy

Political Philosophy helps individuals:

- Understand ethical foundations of politics.
- Evaluate governments critically.
- Protect democratic values.
- Promote justice and equality.
- Develop informed citizenship.
- Build responsible leadership.
- Understand constitutional morality.

What is Political Theory?

Political Theory is the systematic study of political concepts, institutions, and processes using logical analysis, historical interpretation, and empirical evidence.

Political Theory acts as a bridge between Political Philosophy and Political Science. It develops concepts and frameworks that explain political life.

Unlike Political Philosophy, Political Theory is concerned with both:

- **What is**
- **What ought to be**

Therefore, Political Theory combines normative and empirical approaches.

Definitions of Political Theory

David Held

Political Theory is the study of concepts and principles used to explain political institutions and political behavior.

Andrew Heywood

Political Theory examines ideas, values, concepts, and institutions that shape political life.

George Sabine

Political Theory provides a systematic explanation of political ideas and institutions.

Characteristics of Political Theory

1. Analytical

Political Theory studies political concepts carefully and logically.

2. Scientific

Modern Political Theory uses evidence, research, observation, and comparative methods.

3. Conceptual

It explains concepts such as:

- State
- Government
- Power
- Sovereignty
- Authority
- Democracy
- Rights

4. Interdisciplinary

Political Theory draws knowledge from:

- Sociology
- Economics
- History
- Psychology
- Philosophy
- Law

5. Dynamic

Political Theory changes according to social, economic, technological, and political developments.

Scope of Political Theory

Political Theory studies:

- State
 - Government
 - Democracy
 - Political parties
 - Elections
 - Public policy
 - Political participation
 - Justice
 - Liberty
 - Equality
 - Rights
 - Nationalism
 - Globalization
 - Political ideologies
-

Importance of Political Theory

Political Theory helps students:

- Understand political systems.
 - Analyze public policies.
 - Interpret constitutions.
 - Evaluate democratic institutions.
 - Explain political behavior.
 - Prepare for civil service examinations.
 - Develop critical thinking.
-

What is Political Science?

Political Science is a social science that studies the **state, government, political institutions, public administration, political behavior, international relations, public policy, and governance.**

Political Science combines philosophy, theory, observation, data, and practical governance.

It seeks to explain:

- How governments function.
 - How policies are made.
 - How citizens participate.
 - How political institutions operate.
 - How international relations shape world politics.
-

Definitions of Political Science

Garner

Political Science begins and ends with the State.

Gettell

Political Science studies the organization and functions of the State.

Gilchrist

Political Science examines the State, government, and political institutions.

Characteristics of Political Science

- Scientific discipline
 - Empirical and analytical
 - Studies political institutions
 - Examines political behavior
 - Includes comparative politics
 - Covers international relations
 - Uses research methods
 - Practical and policy-oriented
-

Scope of Political Science

Political Science includes:

- Political Theory
 - Political Philosophy
 - Comparative Politics
 - Public Administration
 - International Relations
 - Indian Government and Politics
 - Political Sociology
 - Public Policy
 - Human Rights
 - Governance
 - Political Economy
 - Environmental Politics
 - Global Politics
-

Relationship between Political Philosophy, Political Theory, and Political Science

The three disciplines are closely connected but differ in their focus.

- **Political Philosophy** provides ethical ideals and normative principles such as justice, liberty, equality, and rights.
- **Political Theory** develops concepts, frameworks, and explanations that connect philosophical ideas with political realities.
- **Political Science** studies political institutions, political behavior, governance, and public policy through systematic research and empirical analysis.

Thus, Political Philosophy inspires values, Political Theory explains concepts, and Political Science applies them to understand real political life.

Difference between Political Philosophy, Political Theory, and Political Science

Basis	Political Philosophy	Political Theory	Political Science
Nature	Normative	Normative + Empirical	Scientific
Focus	Ideals and values	Political concepts and explanations	Political institutions and governance
Main Question	What ought to be?	What is and what ought to be?	What is?
Method	Philosophical reasoning	Analytical and empirical	Scientific research
Objective	Justice and ideal state	Explain political concepts	Study political systems
Basis	Ethics	Concepts and analysis	Observation and evidence
Examples	Justice, liberty, equality	Democracy, sovereignty	Elections, governance, public policy

Key Thinkers

Political Philosophy

- Plato
- Aristotle
- Thomas Hobbes
- John Locke
- Jean-Jacques Rousseau
- John Stuart Mill
- John Rawls

Political Theory

- David Easton
- Andrew Heywood
- George Sabine
- David Held
- Harold Lasswell

Political Science

- Garner
- Gettell
- Gilchrist
- Robert Dahl
- Gabriel Almond

Relevance under NEP 2020

The **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020** emphasizes:

- Critical thinking
- Constitutional values
- Research-based learning
- Interdisciplinary education
- Ethical leadership
- Democratic participation
- Problem-solving skills
- Active citizenship

Studying Political Philosophy, Political Theory, and Political Science equips students with the knowledge and analytical abilities needed for higher education, civil services, public administration, law, journalism, policy research, and governance.

Examination-Oriented Important Points

- Political Philosophy focuses on **values and ideals**.
- Political Theory explains **political concepts and institutions**.
- Political Science studies **real political systems and governance**.
- Political Philosophy is **normative**.
- Political Theory is **both normative and empirical**.
- Political Science is **scientific and empirical**.
- Aristotle called humans **Political Animals**.
- Plato emphasized **justice**.
- John Rawls proposed **Justice as Fairness**.
- Political Theory links philosophy with practical politics.
- Political Science is the broad discipline encompassing both Political Philosophy and Political Theory.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1. What is Political Philosophy?

Political Philosophy is the branch of Political Science that studies justice, liberty, equality, rights, authority, and the ideal state using ethical and philosophical reasoning.

Q2. What is Political Theory?

Political Theory is the systematic study of political concepts, ideas, institutions, and processes through both normative and empirical approaches.

Q3. What is Political Science?

Political Science is the scientific study of the state, government, political institutions, public policy, governance, and political behavior.

Q4. What is the main difference between Political Philosophy and Political Theory?

Political Philosophy emphasizes ethical ideals and what politics **ought to be**, whereas Political Theory explains political concepts using both normative reasoning and empirical analysis.

Q5. Why are these concepts important for Political Science Honours students?

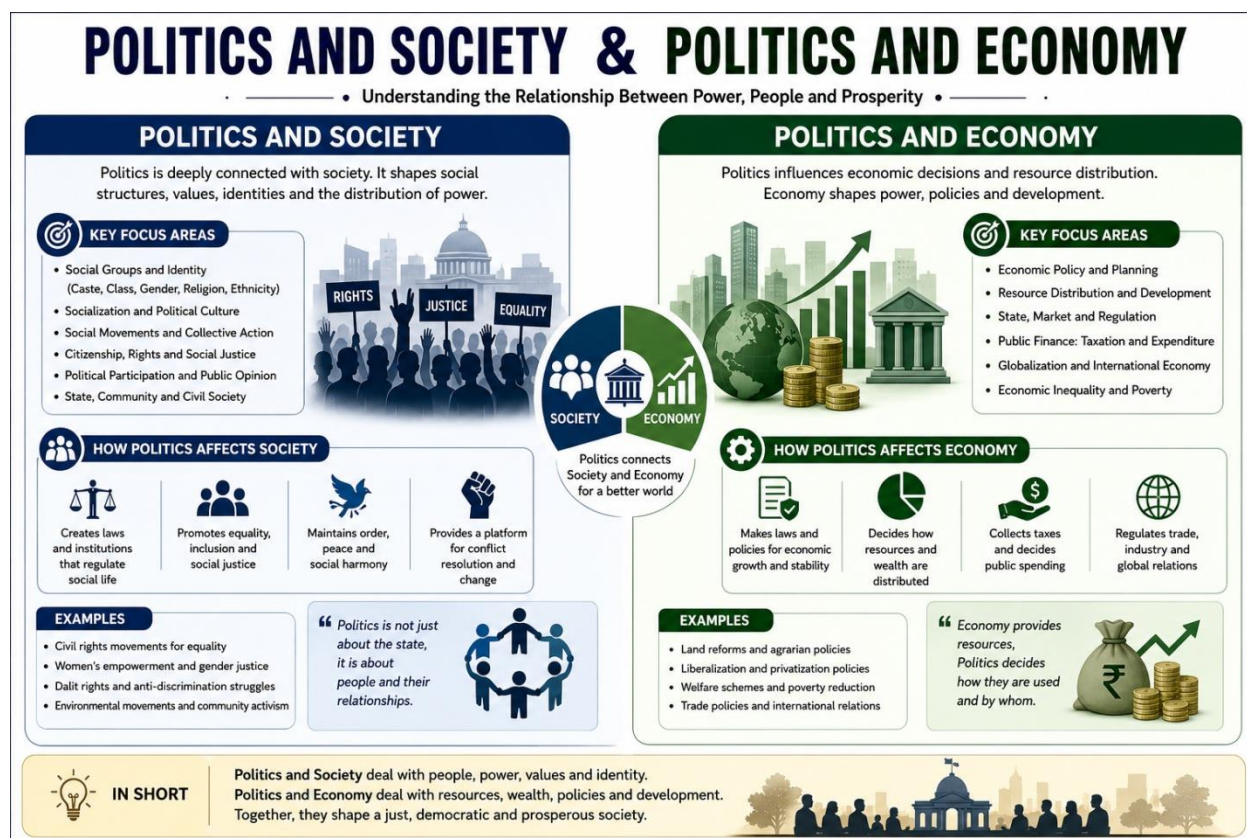
They form the intellectual foundation for understanding democracy, governance, constitutional values, public policy, comparative politics, international relations, and political institutions.

Conclusion

Political Philosophy, Political Theory, and Political Science are three interconnected yet distinct pillars of the study of politics. **Political Philosophy** explores ideals such as justice, liberty, equality, and the ideal state through ethical reasoning. **Political Theory** builds conceptual frameworks that explain political ideas, institutions, and processes by combining philosophical inquiry with empirical analysis. **Political Science**, the broadest discipline, applies these ideas to the systematic study of governments, political institutions, public policy, political behavior, and international relations. Together, these fields provide students with a comprehensive understanding of political life, democratic governance, constitutional values, and the functioning of modern societies.

3) Politics and Society, Politics and Economy

Politics and Society, Politics and Economy – Complete Notes for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)



Title: Politics and Society, Politics and Economy | +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020) Complete Notes

eSikhya : Learn Politics and Society, Politics and Economy with complete notes for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020). Meaning, characteristics, relationship, theories, examples, importance, and FAQs.

Politics and Society, Politics and Economy

Politics is deeply connected with every aspect of human life. It influences the way people live, work, interact, and develop as members of society. Similarly, economic policies determine the production, distribution, and consumption of resources, making politics and the economy closely interrelated. The relationship between **Politics and Society** and **Politics and Economy** forms an important foundation of Political Science under the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**.

For **+3 Political Science Honours students**, understanding these relationships is essential because political decisions shape social institutions, economic growth, public welfare, equality, justice, and development. Likewise, social and economic conditions influence political systems, public policies, elections, and governance.

This article provides detailed study notes covering concepts, definitions, characteristics, theories, importance, examples, and examination-oriented points.

What is Politics?

Politics refers to the process through which decisions are made for society regarding power, governance, public policy, law, justice, and the allocation of resources.

According to **Harold Lasswell**, politics is "**Who gets What, When, and How.**"

Politics is therefore concerned with decision-making, leadership, public administration, and the management of conflicts within society.

What is Society?

Society is an organized group of individuals living together, sharing common institutions, culture, traditions, values, and laws.

Society consists of different institutions such as:

- Family
- Education
- Religion
- Economy
- Government
- Media
- Community organizations

Politics cannot exist without society because governments are formed to regulate social life.

Relationship Between Politics and Society

Politics and society are closely interconnected. Society creates political institutions, while political institutions regulate and protect society.

The relationship is based on mutual dependence.

1. Politics Maintains Social Order

Governments establish laws to maintain peace, security, and stability.

Examples include:

- Criminal laws
 - Traffic regulations
 - Environmental laws
 - Consumer protection laws
-

2. Society Shapes Politics

Public opinion influences political decisions.

Citizens participate through:

- Elections
- Public protests
- Social movements
- Media discussions

- Civil society organizations

For example, public demand for women's reservation, environmental protection, or anti-corruption laws often influences government policy.

3. Politics Promotes Social Justice

Modern democratic governments implement policies to reduce social inequalities.

Examples:

- Reservation policies
 - Right to Education
 - Social welfare schemes
 - Poverty alleviation programmes
 - Gender equality initiatives
-

4. Politics Protects Rights

Governments safeguard:

- Fundamental Rights
- Human Rights
- Minority Rights
- Women's Rights
- Child Rights

These protections strengthen democratic society.

5. Society Influences Political Culture

Every society develops its own political culture based on:

- Traditions
- Religion
- Language
- Education
- History
- Values

Political culture affects voting behaviour, leadership, and public participation.

Characteristics of Politics and Society

Mutual Dependence

Politics and society continuously influence one another.

Dynamic Nature

Social and political changes occur together over time.

Collective Decision-Making

Political decisions affect the entire society.

Promotion of Welfare

Governments work for public welfare through social policies.

Conflict Resolution

Political institutions resolve disputes through constitutional and legal methods.

Importance of Politics in Society

Politics contributes significantly to social development by:

- Maintaining law and order
 - Protecting constitutional rights
 - Providing public services
 - Promoting education and healthcare
 - Ensuring justice
 - Encouraging democratic participation
 - Reducing discrimination
 - Supporting social welfare
-

Major Thinkers on Politics and Society

Aristotle

Aristotle believed humans are **Political Animals**, naturally living in organized societies where politics helps achieve the common good.

Karl Marx

Marx argued that political institutions often reflect the interests of dominant economic classes and that social change is driven by class struggle.

Emile Durkheim

Durkheim emphasized the importance of social solidarity and institutions in maintaining stability.

Max Weber

Weber analyzed authority, bureaucracy, and legitimacy as key elements connecting politics and society.

What is Economy?

Economy refers to the system of production, distribution, exchange, and consumption of goods and services.

Every country uses economic policies to:

- Create employment
 - Reduce poverty
 - Promote industrial development
 - Increase national income
 - Improve living standards
-

Relationship Between Politics and Economy

Politics and economy are inseparable because governments make economic decisions while economic conditions influence political stability.

1. Government Regulates the Economy

Governments frame economic policies relating to:

- Taxation
- Banking
- Trade
- Industry
- Agriculture
- Employment
- Investment
- Public expenditure

These policies directly affect economic growth.

2. Economy Influences Politics

Economic conditions shape political outcomes.

For example:

- Inflation
- Unemployment
- Poverty
- Rising prices
- Economic inequality

These factors influence elections and public opinion.

3. Politics Ensures Economic Justice

Governments implement welfare programmes to reduce inequality.

Examples include:

- Food security programmes
- Rural employment schemes
- Social security pensions
- Subsidies for farmers

- Skill development programmes
-

4. Politics Promotes Economic Development

Governments invest in:

- Infrastructure
- Education
- Healthcare
- Technology
- Digital governance
- Transportation

These investments stimulate long-term development.

5. Global Politics Affects the Economy

International political relations influence:

- Foreign trade
- Investment
- Oil prices
- International organizations
- Economic sanctions
- Global markets

Thus, domestic economies are increasingly shaped by global political developments.

Characteristics of Politics and Economy

Interdependence

Political and economic systems depend upon one another.

Policy-Oriented

Governments formulate economic policies through political processes.

Development Focus

Politics seeks sustainable economic growth and public welfare.

Resource Allocation

Political institutions determine how national resources are distributed.

Public Accountability

Democratic governments remain accountable for economic performance.

Major Economic Ideologies

Capitalism

Capitalism supports private ownership, free markets, and limited government intervention.

Advantages:

- Innovation
- Competition
- Higher productivity

Disadvantages:

- Income inequality
 - Wealth concentration
-

Socialism

Socialism emphasizes public ownership and government control over major industries.

Advantages:

- Social welfare
- Reduced inequality

Disadvantages:

- Reduced market competition
 - Bureaucratic inefficiency
-

Mixed Economy

A mixed economy combines public and private sectors.

India follows a **mixed economy**, where both the government and private enterprises contribute to development.

Politics, Society, and Economy in India

India provides an excellent example of the interaction between politics, society, and the economy.

Examples include:

- Constitutional protection of Fundamental Rights.
- Reservation for Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), and Other Backward Classes (OBC).
- Welfare programmes such as PM-KISAN and MGNREGA.
- Digital India initiatives.
- GST reforms.
- Expansion of education and healthcare.
- Women's empowerment programmes.
- Financial inclusion through Jan Dhan Yojana.

These initiatives demonstrate how political decisions aim to promote social justice and economic development.

Importance Under NEP 2020

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 emphasizes:

- Constitutional values
- Inclusive development
- Critical thinking
- Democratic citizenship
- Ethical leadership
- Social responsibility
- Interdisciplinary learning
- Sustainable development

Studying the relationship between politics, society, and the economy helps students understand contemporary governance, policymaking, and national development.

Examination-Oriented Key Points

- Politics regulates society through laws and public policies.
 - Society influences politics through elections, public opinion, and social movements.
 - Governments manage economic development through fiscal and monetary policies.
 - Economic conditions influence political stability and electoral outcomes.
 - Politics promotes social justice through welfare programmes.
 - India follows a mixed economy.
 - Democracy encourages public participation in political and economic decision-making.
 - NEP 2020 highlights constitutional values, inclusion, and interdisciplinary learning.
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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1. What is the relationship between politics and society?

Politics and society are mutually dependent. Politics provides governance, law, and public policy, while society influences politics through public opinion, elections, and social movements.

Q2. How does politics influence the economy?

Politics influences the economy by formulating policies on taxation, trade, industry, employment, investment, and public expenditure, which affect economic growth and development.

Q3. Why is the economy important in politics?

Economic performance affects employment, inflation, poverty, and living standards, influencing public opinion, political stability, and election outcomes.

Q4. What type of economy does India have?

India follows a **mixed economy**, combining private enterprise with government participation in key sectors to promote growth and social welfare.

Q5. Why are Politics and Society, and Politics and Economy important for Political Science students?

These topics explain how governments interact with social institutions and economic systems, helping students understand governance, democracy, development, public policy, and constitutional values.

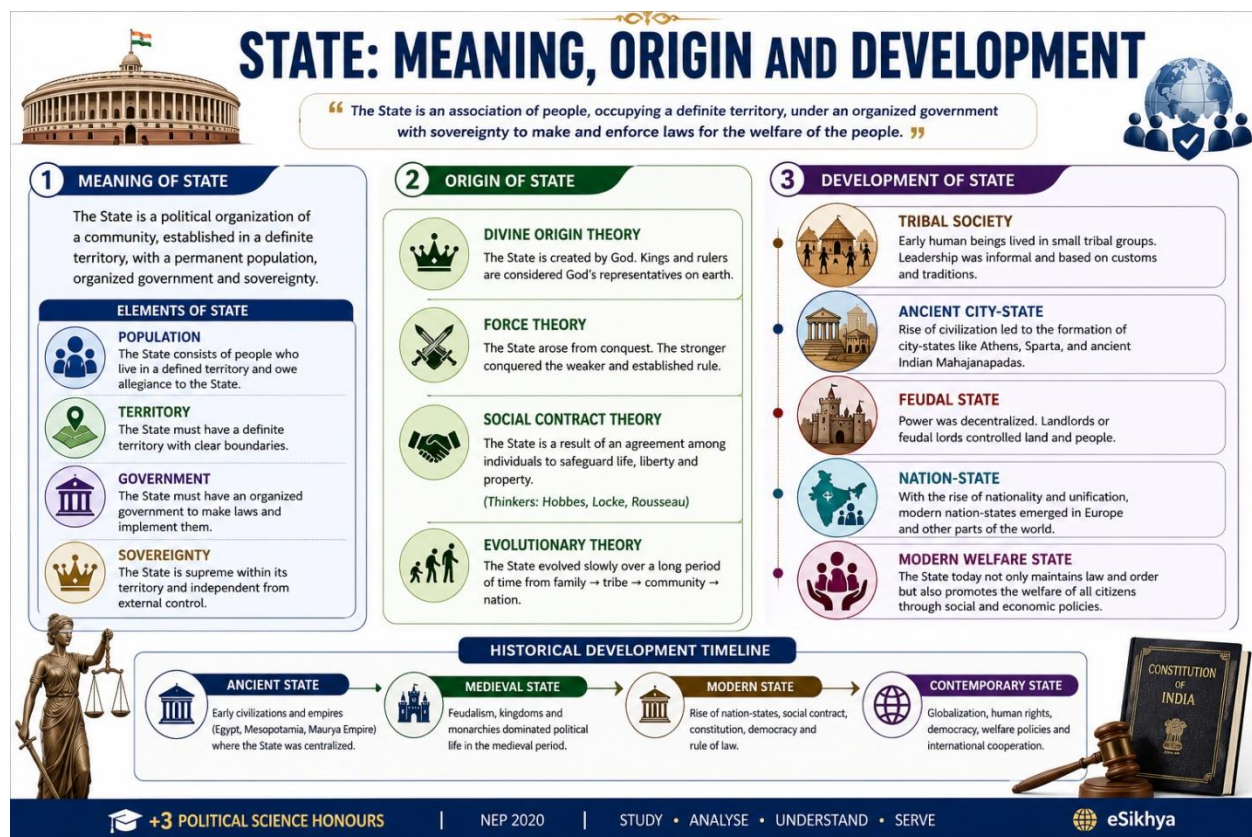
Conclusion

Politics, society, and the economy are closely interconnected and cannot be understood in isolation. Politics provides the framework for governance, law, and public policy, while society shapes political institutions through culture, public opinion, and civic participation. At the same time, economic conditions influence political stability, development, and the well-being of citizens, and governments use economic policies to promote growth, reduce inequality, and ensure social justice. In a democratic country like India, these three spheres work together to strengthen constitutional values, inclusive development, and sustainable progress. For **+3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)** students, understanding the relationship between politics, society, and the economy is essential for analyzing contemporary governance, public policy, and national and global political developments.

Unit II : State

1) State: Meaning, Origin and Development

State: Meaning, Origin and Development – Complete Notes for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)



Title: State: Meaning, Origin and Development | +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)
Complete Notes

eSikhya : Learn the meaning, origin, development, characteristics, elements, theories of origin, evolution, and importance of the State for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020).

State: Meaning, Origin and Development

The **State** is one of the most fundamental concepts in Political Science. Every modern political system is based on the existence of a State, which provides law, order, security, justice, and public welfare. Without the State, organized social and political life would be impossible.

The concept of the State has evolved over thousands of years. From the **Greek City-States** to the **modern democratic welfare state**, its structure, functions, and objectives have continuously changed according to social, economic, and political developments.

For **+3 Political Science Honours students** under the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**, understanding the meaning, origin, and development of the State is essential for studying political theory, constitutional government, public administration, comparative politics, and international relations.

This article explains the concept in detail with definitions, characteristics, theories of origin, historical development, importance, and examination-oriented notes.

Meaning of the State

The **State** is a politically organized community of people living within a definite territory under a government that possesses sovereignty.

It is a permanent political organization created to maintain law and order, protect citizens, administer justice, and promote public welfare.

In simple terms:

A State is a sovereign political organization consisting of people, territory, government, and sovereignty.

Definitions of the State

Aristotle

Aristotle described the State as:

"A union of families and villages having for its end a perfect and self-sufficing life."

According to Aristotle, the State exists to help citizens achieve a good and happy life.

Garner

Garner defined the State as:

"A community of persons more or less numerous, permanently occupying a definite territory, independent of external control, and possessing an organized government."

This definition highlights the four essential elements of the State.

Woodrow Wilson

Wilson viewed the State as:

"A people organized for law within a definite territory."

This definition emphasizes law and political organization.

Bluntschli

According to Bluntschli:

"The State is the politically organized people of a definite territory."

Origin of the Word "State"

The English word **State** comes from the Latin word "**Status**," meaning **condition, position, or political standing**.

The modern concept of the State became popular during the Renaissance period through the writings of the Italian political thinker **Niccolò Machiavelli**, who used the term *Stato* in his famous work **The Prince (1532)**.

Essential Elements of the State

Every State possesses four essential elements.

1. Population

A State must have people.

Population forms the human component of the State.

A State may have:

- Small population (e.g., Iceland)
- Large population (e.g., India)

There is no fixed number required.

2. Territory

A State must have a clearly defined geographical area.

Territory includes:

- Land
- Rivers
- Mountains
- Airspace
- Territorial waters

Without territory, a State cannot exist.

3. Government

Government is the machinery through which the State functions.

Its main functions include:

- Making laws
- Maintaining law and order
- Collecting taxes

- Defending the country
- Providing public services

Government may be:

- Democratic
 - Monarchical
 - Parliamentary
 - Presidential
-

4. Sovereignty

Sovereignty is the supreme power of the State.

It means that the State has ultimate authority within its territory and independence from external control.

Sovereignty has two dimensions:

- **Internal Sovereignty** – Supreme authority over people within the territory.
 - **External Sovereignty** – Freedom from foreign domination.
-

Characteristics of the State

The State has several important characteristics.

Permanent Organization

Governments may change, but the State continues to exist.

Legal Authority

The State creates and enforces laws.

Sovereign Power

The State possesses the highest authority within its territory.

Political Organization

The State organizes public administration and governance.

Compulsory Membership

People living within a State are subject to its laws.

Public Welfare

Modern States promote education, healthcare, employment, infrastructure, and social justice.

Theories of the Origin of the State

Political thinkers have proposed several theories to explain how the State originated.

1. Divine Origin Theory

This theory states that the State was created by God and rulers derive their authority from divine will.

Supporters

- James I of England
- Sir Robert Filmer

Merits

- Encouraged obedience to rulers.
- Promoted political stability.

Demerits

- Ignores democratic principles.
 - Not supported by scientific evidence.
-

2. Force Theory

According to this theory, the State originated through force.

Powerful individuals or groups conquered weaker communities and established political authority.

Supporters

- Gumpowicz
- Oppenheimer

Merits

- Explains conquest and empire-building.

Demerits

- Ignores consent and cooperation.
 - Cannot explain democratic states.
-

3. Patriarchal Theory

This theory argues that the State evolved from the family.

The authority of the father gradually expanded into political authority.

Supporters

- Sir Henry Maine
- Aristotle (partially)

Merits

- Highlights the importance of family.

Demerits

- Does not explain all historical states.
-

4. Matriarchal Theory

According to this theory, early societies were organized around the mother, and political organization evolved from maternal authority.

Although historically important, this theory has limited acceptance today.

5. Social Contract Theory

This is one of the most influential theories.

It states that people voluntarily entered into an agreement (social contract) to establish the State for protection and orderly living.

Major Thinkers

Thomas Hobbes

- Human life in the state of nature was "**solitary, poor, nasty, brutish, and short.**"
- Supported absolute sovereignty.

John Locke

- Believed individuals possessed natural rights.
- Supported limited government and constitutional rule.

Jean-Jacques Rousseau

- Emphasized popular sovereignty and the General Will.
- Favoured democratic government.

Merits

- Supports democracy.
- Recognizes consent of the governed.
- Protects individual rights.

Demerits

- The social contract is hypothetical rather than historical.
-

6. Evolutionary Theory (Historical Theory)

This is the most widely accepted theory today.

It states that the State evolved gradually over time due to social, economic, religious, military, and political developments.

Factors contributing to the evolution include:

- Family
 - Kinship
 - Religion
 - Property
 - Warfare
 - Economic cooperation
-

Development of the State

The State has evolved through different historical stages.

1. Tribal Society

The earliest human communities were based on kinship and customs.

Leadership was informal.

2. Ancient City-State

Examples:

- Athens
- Sparta

Characteristics:

- Small territory
 - Direct democracy (Athens)
 - Active citizen participation
-

3. Feudal State

During the Middle Ages, political power was decentralized.

Kings shared authority with feudal lords.

4. Nation-State

The rise of nationalism in Europe led to modern nation-states.

Examples:

- France
 - Germany
 - Italy
-

5. Democratic State

Citizens gained political rights through elections and constitutional government.

Examples:

- India
 - United Kingdom
 - Canada
-

6. Welfare State

Modern states focus on public welfare.

Functions include:

- Education
- Healthcare
- Employment
- Social security
- Poverty reduction
- Environmental protection

India is a welfare state as reflected in the Directive Principles of State Policy.

Functions of the Modern State

Modern states perform both traditional and welfare functions.

Traditional Functions

- Maintain law and order
- Defend national sovereignty
- Administer justice
- Conduct foreign relations

Welfare Functions

- Promote education
 - Improve healthcare
 - Develop infrastructure
 - Protect the environment
 - Ensure social justice
 - Generate employment
 - Reduce poverty
-

Difference Between State and Government

Basis	State	Government
Meaning	Permanent political organization	Administrative machinery of the State
Nature	Permanent	Temporary
Scope	Broader	Narrower
Authority	Sovereign	Exercises State authority
Existence	Continues despite elections	Changes after elections

Importance of the State

The State is essential because it:

- Maintains peace and security.
 - Protects citizens' rights.
 - Promotes justice.
 - Encourages economic development.
 - Provides public services.
 - Safeguards national sovereignty.
 - Ensures democratic governance.
 - Promotes social welfare.
-

Relevance under NEP 2020

The **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020** emphasizes:

- Constitutional values
- Democratic citizenship
- Critical thinking
- Good governance
- Ethical leadership
- Human rights
- Inclusive development
- Interdisciplinary learning

The study of the State enables students to understand constitutional institutions, governance, public policy, and democratic participation.

Examination-Oriented Key Points

- The State consists of **Population, Territory, Government, and Sovereignty**.
 - The word **State** comes from the Latin word **Status**.
 - **Niccolò Machiavelli** popularized the modern use of the term *Stato*.
 - The **Evolutionary Theory** is the most widely accepted theory of the origin of the State.
 - The **Social Contract Theory** was developed by **Hobbes, Locke, and Rousseau**.
 - A **Welfare State** aims to improve citizens' quality of life.
 - Government is an organ of the State, while the State is a permanent political organization.
-

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1. What is the State in Political Science?

The State is a sovereign political organization consisting of a population, a definite territory, a government, and sovereignty.

Q2. What are the four essential elements of the State?

The four essential elements are **Population, Territory, Government, and Sovereignty**.

Q3. Which theory of the origin of the State is most accepted?

The **Evolutionary Theory** is the most widely accepted because it explains the gradual historical development of the State.

Q4. Who are the major thinkers of the Social Contract Theory?

The principal thinkers are **Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, and Jean-Jacques Rousseau**.

Q5. What is a Welfare State?

A Welfare State is one that actively promotes the social and economic well-being of its citizens through education, healthcare, employment, and social security.

Conclusion

The **State** is the cornerstone of Political Science and the foundation of organized political life. It is a sovereign political organization composed of a population, a definite territory, a government, and sovereignty. Over centuries, the State has evolved from tribal communities and ancient city-states to modern democratic and welfare states. Various theories—such as the Divine Origin, Force, Patriarchal, Social Contract, and Evolutionary theories—attempt to explain its origin, with the Evolutionary Theory being the most widely accepted. In the contemporary world, the State is responsible not only for maintaining law and order but also for ensuring justice, protecting rights, promoting economic development, and advancing social welfare. For **+3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)** students, a clear understanding of the State is essential for studying political theory, constitutional government, public administration, and international relations.

2) State and Sovereignty

State and Sovereignty – Complete Notes for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)



STATE AND SOVEREIGNTY



“ The State exists within a territory and exercises supreme authority over it. Sovereignty is that supreme and ultimate power which makes the State independent, supreme and free. ”

1. STATE: MEANING

The State is a political organization of people, established in a definite territory, with a permanent population, under an organized government which possesses sovereignty to make and enforce laws for the welfare of the people.

ELEMENTS OF STATE

 Population People who live in the territory of the State and owe allegiance to it.	 Territory The State must have a definite territory with clear boundaries.	 Government An organized authority to make laws and implement them.	 Sovereignty The State is supreme within its territory and independent in external matters.
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FEATURES OF STATE

- It is a political organization.
- It has a definite territory.
- It has a permanent population.
- It has an organized government.
- It possesses sovereignty.
- Its main aim is the welfare of the people.



2. SOVEREIGNTY: MEANING

- Sovereignty is the supreme, absolute and ultimate power of the State.
- It enables the State to make laws, take decisions and enforce them without any external control.
- It is the essence of State and distinguishes it from other associations.

TYPES OF SOVEREIGNTY

(A) INTERNAL SOVEREIGNTY



The State has supreme authority within its territory.

- It can make laws on any subject.
- Its laws are binding on all persons and institutions.
- No individual or group can challenge its authority.

(B) EXTERNAL SOVEREIGNTY



The State is independent in its relations with other States.

- It is not subordinate to any other State.
- It has the right to make treaties, enter into agreements.
- It participates in international organizations as an equal.

CHARACTERISTICS OF SOVEREIGNTY

 Supreme It is the highest power within the State.	 Absolute It is not limited by any law or authority.	 Indivisible It cannot be divided or shared.	 Inalienable It cannot be taken away or surrendered.	 Imprescriptible It cannot be acquired by prescription.
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SIGNIFICANCE OF STATE AND SOVEREIGNTY

- Ensures law and order and protects fundamental rights.
- Promotes unity, stability and national integration.
- Enables the State to plan development and implement welfare schemes.
- Protects the country's independence and integrity.

**Law and Order**
Maintains peace and security.

**Development**
Helps in economic and social progress.

**Independence**
Protects the State from external control.

**Welfare**
Ensures justice, equality and welfare of citizens.

**Democracy**
Provides a framework for democratic governance.

+3 POLITICAL SCIENCE HONOURS

NEP 2020 | STUDY • ANALYSE • UNDERSTAND • SERVE

eSikhya

Title: State and Sovereignty | +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020) Complete Notes

eSikhya : Learn State and Sovereignty for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020). Complete notes on meaning, definitions, characteristics, types, theories, importance, limitations, and differences.

State and Sovereignty

The concepts of **State** and **Sovereignty** are the foundation of Political Science. A State cannot exist without sovereignty, and sovereignty cannot exist without a State. Sovereignty gives the State the **supreme legal and political authority** to govern its people, make laws, maintain order, and protect national independence.

The study of State and Sovereignty is one of the most important topics in **Political Theory** because it explains how governments exercise authority and how modern democratic states function. Under the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**, students are encouraged to understand sovereignty not only from the traditional perspective but also in the context of globalization, constitutionalism, democracy, and international relations.

This article provides complete notes on the meaning, origin, characteristics, types, theories, limitations, and importance of sovereignty.

What is the State?

A **State** is a politically organized community of people living within a definite territory under a government that possesses sovereignty.

Definition of the State

Garner defines the State as:

"A community of persons more or less numerous, permanently occupying a definite territory, independent of external control, and possessing an organized government."

Essential Elements of the State

Every State has four essential elements:

1. **Population** – The people living in the State.
2. **Territory** – A definite geographical area.
3. **Government** – The organization that administers the State.
4. **Sovereignty** – The supreme authority of the State.

Among these, **sovereignty is the distinguishing feature** that separates a State from all other political organizations.

Meaning of Sovereignty

The word **Sovereignty** is derived from the Latin word *Superanus*, meaning **supreme** or **highest authority**.

Sovereignty refers to the **supreme and final power of the State** to govern its territory and people without interference from any external authority.

In simple words:

Sovereignty means the highest legal and political authority possessed by the State.

Without sovereignty, a political organization cannot be called a State.

Definitions of Sovereignty

Jean Bodin

Jean Bodin, known as the **Father of the Theory of Sovereignty**, defined sovereignty as:

"The absolute and perpetual power of the State."

He argued that sovereignty is permanent, indivisible, and supreme.

John Austin

John Austin explained sovereignty as:

"The supreme power exercised by a determinate human superior who receives habitual obedience from the people but does not habitually obey any other human superior."

Austin emphasized the legal and absolute nature of sovereignty.

Harold Laski

Harold Laski criticized the absolute theory of sovereignty. According to him:

No authority in modern society is completely unlimited because power is shared among different institutions and is restricted by law, public opinion, and democratic principles.

A.V. Dicey

Dicey distinguished between:

- **Legal Sovereignty**
- **Political Sovereignty**

He argued that while Parliament may possess legal sovereignty, the people ultimately hold political sovereignty in a democracy.

Characteristics of Sovereignty

1. Supremacy

Sovereignty is the highest authority within the territory of the State.

No individual or institution is legally superior to it.

2. Permanence

Governments may change after elections, but sovereignty remains with the State.

3. Universality

Every individual and institution within the territory is subject to the authority of the State unless exempted by law.

4. Inalienability

Sovereignty cannot be permanently transferred to another State.

A sovereign State may sign treaties but does not lose its sovereign status.

5. Indivisibility

Traditional theorists believed sovereignty cannot be divided.

However, modern federal systems distribute governmental powers while sovereignty remains constitutionally recognized.

6. Exclusiveness

Only one sovereign authority exists within a particular territory.

No rival authority can legally exercise equal power.

Types of Sovereignty

1. Internal Sovereignty

Internal sovereignty refers to the supreme authority of the State over all individuals and institutions within its territory.

Examples:

- Making laws
 - Maintaining law and order
 - Administering justice
 - Collecting taxes
-

2. External Sovereignty

External sovereignty means freedom from foreign control.

A sovereign State independently conducts:

- Foreign policy
 - International agreements
 - National defence
 - Diplomatic relations
-

3. Legal Sovereignty

Legal sovereignty is the authority recognized by law to make binding legislation.

In India, Parliament exercises legislative authority within the limits of the Constitution.

4. Political Sovereignty

Political sovereignty ultimately belongs to the people.

Citizens influence government through:

- Elections
 - Public opinion
 - Civil society
 - Peaceful protests
-

5. Popular Sovereignty

Popular sovereignty means that all political power originates from the people.

This principle is fundamental to democratic governments.

6. De Facto and De Jure Sovereignty

De Facto Sovereignty

Power exercised in practice, even without full legal recognition.

De Jure Sovereignty

Power exercised according to constitutional and legal authority.

Theories of Sovereignty

1. Monistic Theory

This theory holds that sovereignty is:

- Absolute
- Indivisible
- Unlimited

Supporters

- Jean Bodin
 - Thomas Hobbes
 - John Austin
-

2. Pluralistic Theory

Pluralists argue that sovereignty is shared among various social institutions.

Supporters

- Harold Laski
- G.D.H. Cole
- J.N. Figgis

According to this theory:

- Family
- Religious organizations
- Trade unions
- Local governments

also possess important authority.

Limitations of Sovereignty

Although sovereignty is supreme, it is not unlimited in the modern world.

It is restricted by:

1. Constitution

Governments must function according to constitutional provisions.

2. Rule of Law

State authorities are bound by legal procedures.

3. Fundamental Rights

Governments cannot violate constitutional rights arbitrarily.

4. Public Opinion

Democratic governments remain accountable to citizens.

5. International Law

States are expected to respect international treaties and obligations.

6. Globalization

Economic cooperation, trade agreements, and international organizations influence national decision-making.

State and Sovereignty in India

India is a **Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic Republic**, as declared in the **Preamble to the Constitution of India**.

Sovereignty in India means:

- India is independent from foreign domination.
 - Parliament and constitutional institutions exercise authority according to the Constitution.
 - Citizens elect their representatives through democratic elections.
 - The Constitution is the supreme law of the land.
-

Difference Between State and Sovereignty

	State	Sovereignty
Basis		
Meaning	Political organization	Supreme authority of the State
Nature	Institution	Power or authority
Elements	Population, Territory, Government, Sovereignty	One essential element of the State
Existence	Concrete political organization	Abstract political concept
Function	Governs society	Gives the State supreme authority

Importance of Sovereignty

Sovereignty is essential because it:

- Protects national independence.
- Maintains law and order.
- Enables governments to make laws.
- Ensures political stability.
- Safeguards territorial integrity.
- Promotes democratic governance.
- Facilitates international recognition.
- Strengthens constitutional government.

State and Sovereignty under NEP 2020

The **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020** emphasizes constitutional values, democratic participation, ethical leadership, critical thinking, and global citizenship.

Understanding sovereignty helps students analyze:

- Constitutional governance
- Federalism
- Democracy
- Human rights
- International relations
- Public administration
- Global politics

Examination-Oriented Key Points

- Sovereignty is the **supreme authority of the State**.
 - The word sovereignty comes from the Latin word **Superanus**.
 - **Jean Bodin** is called the **Father of the Theory of Sovereignty**.
 - **John Austin** supported the **Monistic Theory**.
 - **Harold Laski** was a leading **Pluralist** thinker.
 - Sovereignty may be **Internal** or **External**.
 - Democracy is based on the principle of **Popular Sovereignty**.
 - The **Preamble of the Indian Constitution** declares India to be a **Sovereign** Republic.
-

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1. What is sovereignty in Political Science?

Sovereignty is the supreme legal and political authority of the State to govern its territory and people independently.

Q2. Who is known as the Father of the Theory of Sovereignty?

Jean Bodin is regarded as the Father of the Theory of Sovereignty.

Q3. What are the two main types of sovereignty?

The two principal types are **Internal Sovereignty** and **External Sovereignty**.

Q4. What is the difference between legal and political sovereignty?

Legal sovereignty refers to the authority recognized by law to make binding legislation, whereas political sovereignty ultimately rests with the people in a democratic system.

Q5. Why is sovereignty important?

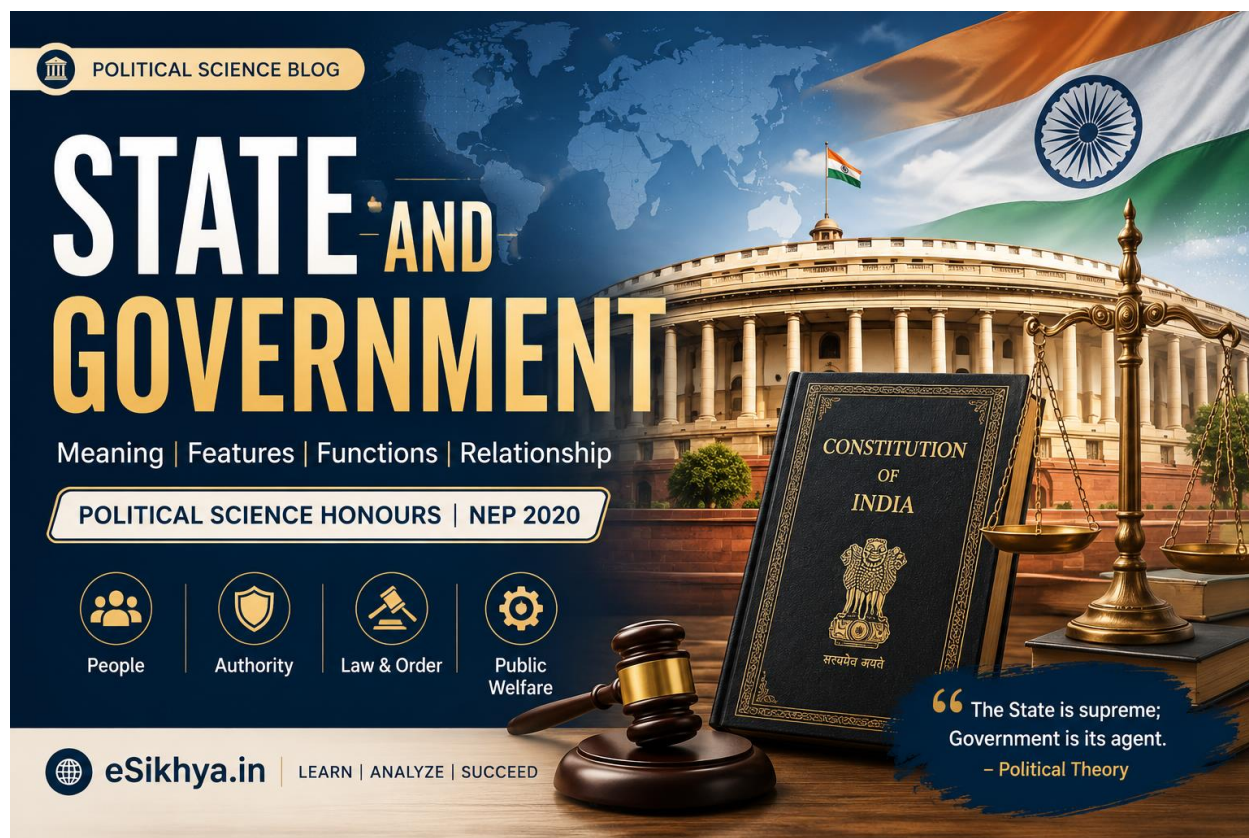
Sovereignty enables the State to govern independently, maintain law and order, protect national integrity, make laws, and represent itself in international affairs.

Conclusion

The **State** and **Sovereignty** are inseparable concepts in Political Science. While the State provides the institutional framework for governance, sovereignty gives it the supreme authority to govern independently and effectively. Classical thinkers such as **Jean Bodin** and **John Austin** viewed sovereignty as absolute and indivisible, whereas modern pluralist thinkers like **Harold Laski** emphasized that state authority is balanced by constitutional limits, democratic institutions, and social organizations. In today's interconnected world, sovereignty continues to evolve under the influence of constitutionalism, globalization, and international law, while remaining a defining feature of every independent State. For **+3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)** students, understanding State and Sovereignty is essential for analyzing democracy, constitutional government, federalism, public administration, and international relations.

3) State and Government

State and Government – Complete Notes for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)



Title: State and Government | Meaning, Relationship and Difference | +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)

eSikhya : Learn State and Government in Political Science. Complete notes on meaning, definitions, characteristics, relationship, functions, and differences for +3 Political Science Honours NEP 2020.

State and Government

The concepts of **State** and **Government** are fundamental topics in Political Science. Although these terms are often used together, they have different meanings. The **State** is the permanent political organization of society, while the **Government** is the machinery through which the State exercises its authority and performs its functions.

Every modern political system requires both a State and a Government. The State provides the legal and political framework, whereas the Government manages administration, makes policies, and implements laws.

For **+3 Political Science Honours students under NEP 2020**, understanding the relationship between State and Government is essential for studying political theory, constitutional government, democracy, public administration, and governance.

Meaning of State

The **State** is a politically organized community of people living in a definite territory under a government with sovereignty.

In simple words:

A State is a sovereign political organization consisting of population, territory, government, and sovereignty.

The State is the highest political organization in society.

Definitions of State

Garner

According to Garner:

"The State is a community of persons, more or less numerous, permanently occupying a definite territory, independent of external control, and possessing an organized government."

This definition explains the four essential elements of the State:

1. Population
 2. Territory
 3. Government
 4. Sovereignty
-

Aristotle

Aristotle described the State as a community formed for achieving a **good and self-sufficient life**.

Elements of the State

1. Population

People are the most important element of the State. Without population, a State cannot exist.

2. Territory

A State must have a fixed geographical area including land, water, and airspace.

3. Government

Government is the organization that controls and administers the State.

4. Sovereignty

Sovereignty means the supreme authority of the State over internal and external matters.

Characteristics of State

1. Permanent Organization

The State continues even when governments change.

2. Sovereign Authority

The State has supreme power within its territory.

3. Legal Organization

The State functions according to laws and constitutional principles.

4. Compulsory Membership

Citizens living in a State must follow its laws.

5. Public Welfare

Modern States work for social and economic development.

Meaning of Government

Government is the agency or machinery through which the State expresses its will and exercises authority.

In simple words:

Government is the instrument through which the State operates.

The government makes laws, maintains order, implements policies, and manages administration.

Definitions of Government

J.W. Garner

According to Garner:

Government is the organization through which the will of the State is formulated, expressed, and carried out.

Gettell

Gettell defined government as:

The organization of the State through which its purposes are achieved.

Elements of Government

A government generally consists of three organs:

1. Legislature

The Legislature makes laws.

Examples:

- Parliament of India
- State Legislative Assemblies

Functions:

- Law-making
 - Budget approval
 - Representation of citizens
-

2. Executive

The Executive implements laws and manages administration.

Examples:

- President
- Prime Minister
- Ministers
- Civil servants

Functions:

- Policy implementation
 - Administration
 - Maintaining security
-

3. Judiciary

The Judiciary interprets laws and provides justice.

Examples:

- Supreme Court
- High Courts
- Lower Courts

Functions:

- Protecting rights
 - Resolving disputes
 - Judicial review
-

Characteristics of Government

1. Temporary Nature

Governments change through elections, revolutions, or political processes.

2. Exercise of State Authority

Government uses the authority of the State to govern citizens.

3. Administrative Machinery

Government includes institutions and officials responsible for administration.

4. Policy Making

Government formulates policies for social and economic development.

5. Law Enforcement

Government ensures implementation of laws.

Relationship Between State and Government

State and Government are closely related but not identical.

The relationship can be understood as follows:

1. Government is an Organ of the State

The State cannot function without government because government acts as its operational machinery.

Example:

India is a State, while the Government of India is the administrative authority.

2. State is Permanent, Government is Temporary

The State continues for a long period, but governments change regularly.

Example:

Different governments have ruled India, but the Indian State remains the same.

3. State Possesses Sovereignty, Government Exercises It

The State has supreme authority, while the government uses that authority to govern.

4. State is Wider than Government

Government is only one part of the State.

The State includes:

- People
- Territory
- Government
- Sovereignty

5. Government Represents the State

The government acts on behalf of the State in domestic and international affairs.

Difference Between State and Government

Basis	State	Government
Meaning	Political organization of society	Machinery through which the State functions
Nature	Permanent	Temporary
Scope	Wider concept	Narrower concept
Elements	Population, Territory, Government, Sovereignty	Legislature, Executive, Judiciary
Change	Rarely changes	Changes frequently
Sovereignty	Possesses sovereignty	Exercises sovereignty
Membership	Citizens are members of the State	People participate in government
Existence	Continuous	Depends on political changes
Example	India as a State	Government of India

Types of Government

1. Democratic Government

A system where people choose their representatives through elections.

Examples:

- India
- United States

Features:

- Free elections
- Rule of law
- Citizen participation
- Protection of rights

2. Monarchical Government

A system where a king or queen holds political authority.

Types:

- Absolute monarchy
- Constitutional monarchy

3. Authoritarian Government

A system where political power is concentrated in one leader or a small group.

Features:

- Limited political freedom
- Restricted opposition

4. Federal Government

Power is divided between central and regional governments.

Example:

India follows a federal system with a strong centre.

Importance of Government

Government performs several important functions:

Maintaining Law and Order

Protects citizens and maintains peace.

Providing Justice

Ensures legal rights and fair treatment.

Economic Development

Creates policies for growth and employment.

Social Welfare

Provides education, healthcare, and social security.

National Security

Protects the country from external threats.

International Relations

Represents the State globally.

State and Government in Indian Context

India is a **Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic Republic**.

The Indian State functions through a constitutional government based on:

- Parliamentary democracy
- Separation of powers
- Fundamental Rights
- Directive Principles of State Policy
- Rule of law

The Government of India operates through:

- Legislature – Parliament
 - Executive – President, Prime Minister, Council of Ministers
 - Judiciary – Supreme Court and other courts
-

Importance under NEP 2020

The study of State and Government helps students understand:

- Constitutional values
- Democratic governance
- Political institutions
- Public administration
- Citizenship
- Rights and duties
- Policy-making processes

NEP 2020 promotes critical understanding of political systems and encourages students to become responsible democratic citizens.

Examination-Oriented Key Points

- State is a permanent political organization.
 - Government is the machinery through which the State functions.
 - State has four elements: Population, Territory, Government, and Sovereignty.
 - Government has three organs: Legislature, Executive, and Judiciary.
 - State possesses sovereignty; Government exercises sovereignty.
 - Governments change, but States continue.
 - Government is a part of the State.
 - The State is broader than the Government.
-

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1. What is the difference between State and Government?

The State is a permanent political organization consisting of people, territory, government, and sovereignty, while the Government is the temporary machinery that administers the State.

Q2. Is Government a part of the State?

Yes, Government is one of the essential elements of the State.

Q3. Why is Government necessary for the State?

Government provides the machinery through which the State makes laws, maintains order, and delivers public services.

Q4. What are the three organs of Government?

The three organs are Legislature, Executive, and Judiciary.

Q5. Which is more permanent: State or Government?

The State is more permanent because governments change frequently, but the State continues.

Conclusion

The concepts of **State and Government** are closely connected but fundamentally different. The State is a permanent political organization that includes population, territory, government, and sovereignty, whereas the Government is the administrative machinery through which the State exercises its authority. A State cannot function without government, and government cannot exist without the State. In modern democratic systems, governments operate according to constitutional principles, protecting citizens' rights and promoting public welfare. For **+3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)** students, understanding the distinction and relationship between State and Government provides the foundation for studying democracy, constitutionalism, governance, and political institutions.

4) State and Globalization

State and Globalization – Complete Notes for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)



Title: State and Globalization | Meaning, Relationship and Impact on State Power | +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)

eSikhya : Learn State and Globalization for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020). Complete notes on meaning, features, relationship, impact, challenges, and importance.

State and Globalization

The relationship between the **State and Globalization** is one of the most important topics in contemporary Political Science. Traditionally, the State was considered the highest political authority within a fixed territory. However, globalization has transformed the role, functions, and

power of the State by increasing international economic, political, social, and cultural connections.

In the modern world, no State can function completely independently because global markets, international organizations, multinational corporations, technology, climate change, and international agreements influence national policies.

For +3 **Political Science Honours students under NEP 2020**, understanding State and Globalization is essential to analyze modern governance, sovereignty, international relations, economic policies, and global challenges.

Meaning of State

A **State** is a politically organized community of people living within a definite territory under a government that possesses sovereignty.

A State consists of four essential elements:

1. **Population**
2. **Territory**
3. **Government**
4. **Sovereignty**

The State has authority to make laws, maintain order, protect citizens, and conduct relations with other States.

Meaning of Globalization

Globalization refers to the process of increasing interconnectedness and interdependence among countries through economic, political, technological, social, and cultural exchanges.

In simple words:

Globalization is the process through which the world becomes increasingly connected through trade, communication, technology, and international cooperation.

Definitions of Globalization

Anthony Giddens

According to Anthony Giddens:

Globalization refers to the intensification of worldwide social relations that link distant localities.

David Held

David Held describes globalization as the expansion of social, political, and economic activities across national borders.

Features of Globalization

1. Economic Integration

Globalization connects economies through:

- International trade
- Foreign investment
- Global markets
- Multinational corporations

Example:

A product may be designed in one country, manufactured in another, and sold worldwide.

2. Growth of Technology

Modern technology has accelerated globalization through:

- Internet
- Digital communication
- Social media
- Artificial intelligence
- Online services

3. International Institutions

Globalization has increased the importance of international organizations such as:

- United Nations (UN)
- World Trade Organization (WTO)
- International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- World Bank

4. Cultural Exchange

Globalization encourages the exchange of:

- Languages
- Food
- Music
- Films
- Ideas
- Lifestyle

5. Global Problems

Many issues require international cooperation:

- Climate change
 - Terrorism
 - Pandemics
 - Cyber security
 - Environmental protection
-

Relationship Between State and Globalization

The relationship between the State and Globalization is complex. Globalization has neither completely eliminated the State nor left it unchanged. Instead, it has transformed the role of the State.

Impact of Globalization on the State

1. Changes in State Sovereignty

Traditional sovereignty meant that the State had complete control over internal and external affairs.

Globalization has affected sovereignty because:

- International agreements limit state decisions.
- Global markets influence economic policies.
- International organizations influence governance.

However, States continue to remain important actors in global politics.

2. Economic Role of the State

Globalization has changed economic functions of the State.

Earlier, many States followed protectionist policies by controlling trade and industries.

After globalization, many States promote:

- Free trade
- Foreign investment
- Privatization
- Liberalization

Example:

India introduced economic reforms in **1991** to integrate with the global economy.

3. Rise of Multinational Corporations (MNCs)

Multinational corporations operate across different countries.

Examples:

- Technology companies
- Automobile industries
- Financial institutions

MNCs influence:

- Employment
- Investment
- Production
- Government policies

This sometimes reduces the economic control of individual States.

4. Transformation of Welfare State

Globalization has influenced welfare policies.

States must balance:

- Economic growth
- Social justice
- Employment security
- Environmental protection

Modern States continue welfare functions but operate within global economic conditions.

5. Increased International Cooperation

Globalization has encouraged States to cooperate through:

- International treaties
- Regional organizations
- Global agreements

Examples:

- Climate agreements
 - Trade agreements
 - Human rights conventions
-

Role of the State in the Age of Globalization

Although globalization has changed the State, it has not made the State irrelevant.

The State continues to perform important functions:

1. Maintaining Law and Order

The State remains responsible for security and justice.

2. Protecting National Interests

States negotiate international agreements to protect economic and political interests.

3. Regulating Global Activities

Governments regulate:

- Foreign companies
 - Digital platforms
 - Financial markets
 - Environmental standards
-

4. Promoting Development

States create policies for:

- Education
- Healthcare

- Infrastructure
 - Employment
 - Innovation
-

5. Protecting Culture and Identity

States preserve:

- National identity
 - Language
 - Cultural heritage
 - Social values
-

Theories Regarding State and Globalization

1. Hyperglobalist View

According to hyperglobalists:

- Globalization reduces the power of the State.
- Economic forces become more powerful than governments.
- National boundaries become less important.

Supporters argue that global markets dominate State decisions.

2. Sceptical View

Sceptics argue that globalization is exaggerated.

According to them:

- States remain powerful.
 - Governments control international relations.
 - Globalization does not eliminate national sovereignty.
-

3. Transformationalist View

Transformationalists believe globalization changes the nature of the State.

According to this view:

- State power is transformed, not destroyed.
 - Governments adapt to global challenges.
 - New forms of governance emerge.
-

Advantages of Globalization for the State

Economic Growth

Global trade and investment increase economic opportunities.

Technological Development

States gain access to advanced technology.

International Cooperation

Countries work together to solve global problems.

Employment Opportunities

Foreign investment can create jobs.

Knowledge Exchange

Countries share ideas and innovations.

Challenges of Globalization for the State

1. Decline of Economic Control

Global markets can limit government control over economic policies.

2. Economic Inequality

Benefits of globalization may not be equally distributed.

3. Cultural Challenges

Global cultural influences may affect local traditions and identities.

4. Environmental Problems

Industrial growth can increase environmental challenges.

5. Reduced Policy Independence

International agreements may restrict certain policy choices.

State and Globalization in India

India is an important example of a State adapting to globalization.

Economic Liberalization 1991

India introduced reforms based on:

- Liberalization
- Privatization
- Globalization (LPG reforms)

Major changes:

- Increased foreign investment
 - Growth of private sector
 - Expansion of international trade
 - Development of technology industries
-

Importance Under NEP 2020

The study of State and Globalization helps students understand:

- Changing nature of sovereignty
- Global governance
- International relations
- Economic policies
- Development issues
- Human rights
- Environmental challenges

NEP 2020 emphasizes global awareness, interdisciplinary learning, and responsible citizenship in an interconnected world.

State and Globalization: Key Differences

Basis	Traditional State	Globalized State
Sovereignty	Absolute authority	Shared and influenced by global factors
Economy	Controlled mainly by government	Connected with global markets
Policy Making	Mostly domestic	Influenced by international factors
Communication	Limited national boundaries	Global digital connectivity
Governance	State-centered	Multi-level governance

Examination-Oriented Key Points

- Globalization means increasing worldwide interconnectedness.
 - The State remains important despite globalization.
 - Globalization has transformed but not eliminated sovereignty.
 - Economic globalization influences State policies.
 - International organizations play an important role in global governance.
 - The three views of globalization are:
 - Hyperglobalist
 - Sceptical
 - Transformationalist
 - India adopted globalization reforms in 1991.
 - Modern States balance global integration with national interests.
-

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1. What is globalization in Political Science?

Globalization is the process of increasing political, economic, social, and cultural interconnectedness among countries.

Q2. Has globalization weakened the State?

Globalization has changed the role of the State but has not completely weakened or eliminated it. States continue to play important roles in governance and security.

Q3. How does globalization affect sovereignty?

Globalization limits traditional sovereignty by increasing international cooperation, global markets, and international regulations.

Q4. What are the LPG reforms in India?

LPG refers to Liberalization, Privatization, and Globalization reforms introduced in India in 1991.

Q5. Why is State and Globalization important for Political Science students?

It helps students understand modern sovereignty, international relations, global governance, and the changing role of governments.

Conclusion

The relationship between the **State and Globalization** represents one of the major transformations in contemporary politics. While the traditional State was based on complete sovereignty and territorial control, globalization has created a world of increasing economic, political, and social interdependence. Globalization has influenced state sovereignty, economic policies, governance, and international relations. However, the State remains a central actor responsible for security, justice, development, and public welfare. In the era of globalization, successful States are those that balance global opportunities with national interests and social responsibilities. For **+3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)** students, understanding State and Globalization is essential for analyzing modern political changes and global challenges.

Unit III : Concepts

1) Power, Authority And Legitimacy

Power, Authority and Legitimacy – Complete Notes for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)



Title: Power, Authority and Legitimacy | +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020) Complete Notes

eSihya : Learn Power, Authority and Legitimacy in Political Science with complete notes for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020). Meaning, definitions, types, characteristics, differences, importance, and FAQs.

Power, Authority and Legitimacy

Power, Authority, and Legitimacy are three fundamental concepts in Political Science. Every political system, whether democratic or authoritarian, is based on these concepts. Governments use **power** to make and enforce decisions, **authority** to govern according to law, and **legitimacy** to gain public acceptance and support.

Although these terms are closely related, they have different meanings. Power refers to the ability to influence or control others, authority refers to the legal and accepted right to exercise power, and legitimacy refers to the public belief that political power is rightful and justified.

For +3 Political Science Honours students under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, understanding these concepts is essential for studying democracy, governance, public administration, constitutional government, and political theory.

What is Power?

Power is the ability of an individual or group to influence the behaviour, decisions, or actions of others, even if they resist.

In simple words:

Power is the capacity to make others act according to one's wishes.

Power is the foundation of political life because governments use power to maintain law and order, implement policies, and protect national interests.

Definitions of Power

Robert Dahl

According to Robert Dahl:

"A has power over B to the extent that A can get B to do something that B would not otherwise do."

This definition emphasizes influence and control.

Harold Lasswell and Abraham Kaplan

Power is:

Participation in decision-making.

They highlighted the role of power in political decisions.

Max Weber

Max Weber defined power as:

The probability that one actor within a social relationship will be able to carry out his own will despite resistance.

Characteristics of Power

1. Ability to Influence

Power enables one person or institution to influence others.

2. Relational

Power exists only in relationships between individuals or groups.

3. Dynamic

Power changes according to political, economic, and social conditions.

4. Universal

Power exists in every organization, society, and political system.

5. Goal-Oriented

Power is exercised to achieve specific objectives.

Types of Power

1. Political Power

Power exercised by governments and political institutions.

Example:

- Parliament making laws.
 - Government implementing policies.
-

2. Economic Power

Power based on wealth, financial resources, and ownership.

Example:

- Large corporations influencing economic policies.
-

3. Social Power

Influence arising from social status, education, or community leadership.

4. Military Power

Power derived from armed forces and defence capabilities.

5. Ideological Power

Power to influence people's beliefs, values, and opinions.

Example:

- Media
 - Educational institutions
 - Religious organizations
-

Sources of Power

Power may arise from:

- Wealth
 - Knowledge
 - Education
 - Leadership
 - Political position
 - Public support
 - Military strength
 - Technology
 - Information
-

Importance of Power

Power is necessary for:

- Maintaining law and order.
 - Implementing government policies.
 - Protecting national security.
 - Resolving conflicts.
 - Promoting development.
 - Ensuring public welfare.
-

What is Authority?

Authority is the **legal, legitimate, and accepted right to exercise power**.

Unlike power, authority is based on public acceptance and legal recognition.

In simple words:

Authority is legitimate power accepted by the people.

Definitions of Authority

Max Weber

Authority is:

Legitimate power accepted by those who obey it.

Carl J. Friedrich

Authority is the capacity to issue commands that people willingly obey because they recognize their legitimacy.

Characteristics of Authority

1. Legitimacy

Authority is accepted as rightful.

2. Legal Basis

Authority operates according to law and constitutional rules.

3. Acceptance

People voluntarily obey authority.

4. Responsibility

Authority carries accountability and responsibility.

5. Stability

Authority promotes political stability and social order.

Types of Authority (Max Weber)

1. Traditional Authority

Based on customs, traditions, and long-established practices.

Examples:

- Kings
 - Tribal chiefs
-

2. Charismatic Authority

Based on the personal qualities and leadership of an individual.

Examples:

- Mahatma Gandhi
 - Nelson Mandela
-

3. Legal-Rational Authority

Based on law, constitution, and formal rules.

Examples:

- Judges
- Civil servants
- Prime Minister

- President

Most modern democratic governments operate through legal-rational authority.

Functions of Authority

Authority helps in:

- Implementing laws.
 - Maintaining discipline.
 - Protecting citizens.
 - Administering justice.
 - Coordinating government activities.
 - Promoting development.
-

What is Legitimacy?

Legitimacy means the **public belief that political power and authority are lawful, justified, and deserve obedience.**

A government may possess power, but it cannot function effectively without legitimacy.

In simple words:

Legitimacy is the acceptance of political authority by the people.

Definitions of Legitimacy

Jean Blondel

Legitimacy is the belief that political authority has the right to rule.

David Easton

Legitimacy refers to the acceptance of political institutions by society.

Characteristics of Legitimacy

1. Public Acceptance

Citizens willingly accept political authority.

2. Moral Justification

Government actions are considered fair and justified.

3. Constitutional Basis

Legitimacy is strengthened through constitutional governance.

4. Political Stability

Legitimate governments enjoy greater stability.

5. Democratic Participation

Free elections enhance legitimacy.

Sources of Legitimacy

Governments gain legitimacy through:

- Constitution
 - Free and fair elections
 - Rule of law
 - Public trust
 - Good governance
 - Protection of rights
 - Effective leadership
 - Public welfare policies
-

Importance of Legitimacy

Legitimacy:

- Encourages voluntary obedience.
 - Reduces political conflicts.
 - Strengthens democracy.
 - Increases government stability.
 - Enhances public confidence.
 - Promotes peaceful governance.
-

Relationship Between Power, Authority, and Legitimacy

These three concepts are closely connected.

- **Power** is the ability to influence or control others.
- **Authority** is the lawful and accepted right to exercise power.
- **Legitimacy** is the public acceptance that authority is rightful.

A democratic government functions effectively when power is exercised through lawful authority and supported by legitimacy.

Difference Between Power, Authority, and Legitimacy

	Power	Authority	Legitimacy
Basis			
Meaning	Ability to influence others	Legal and accepted right to exercise power	Public acceptance of authority
Nature	May be legal or illegal	Always lawful	Based on public belief
Basis	Force, influence, resources	Law, constitution, tradition	Consent and trust
Obedience	May be forced	Usually voluntary	Voluntary and moral
Stability	May be temporary	More stable	Creates long-term stability

Power, Authority, and Legitimacy in India

India is a **Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic Republic**.

In India:

- **Power** is exercised by constitutional institutions.
- **Authority** is granted through the Constitution.
- **Legitimacy** is obtained through free and fair elections, judicial independence, and adherence to democratic principles.

The Constitution of India is the supreme source of lawful authority.

Importance under NEP 2020

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 encourages students to understand:

- Constitutional values
- Democracy
- Good governance
- Rule of law
- Ethical leadership
- Responsible citizenship
- Human rights
- Political participation

The study of power, authority, and legitimacy helps students critically analyze political institutions and democratic governance.

Examination-Oriented Key Points

- Power is the ability to influence others.
 - Authority is legitimate and lawful power.
 - Legitimacy is public acceptance of political authority.
 - **Robert Dahl** explained power through influence.
 - **Max Weber** classified authority into:
 - Traditional Authority
 - Charismatic Authority
 - Legal-Rational Authority
 - Free elections increase political legitimacy.
 - Democratic governments require both authority and legitimacy for stability.
 - The Constitution is the main source of lawful authority in India.
-

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1. What is power in Political Science?

Power is the ability of an individual or institution to influence or control the actions and decisions of others.

Q2. What is the difference between power and authority?

Power is the ability to influence others, while authority is the lawful and accepted right to exercise that power.

Q3. What is legitimacy?

Legitimacy is the public belief that a government or political authority has the rightful authority to govern.

Q4. What are the three types of authority according to Max Weber?

The three types are:

1. Traditional Authority
2. Charismatic Authority
3. Legal-Rational Authority

Q5. Why is legitimacy important in a democracy?

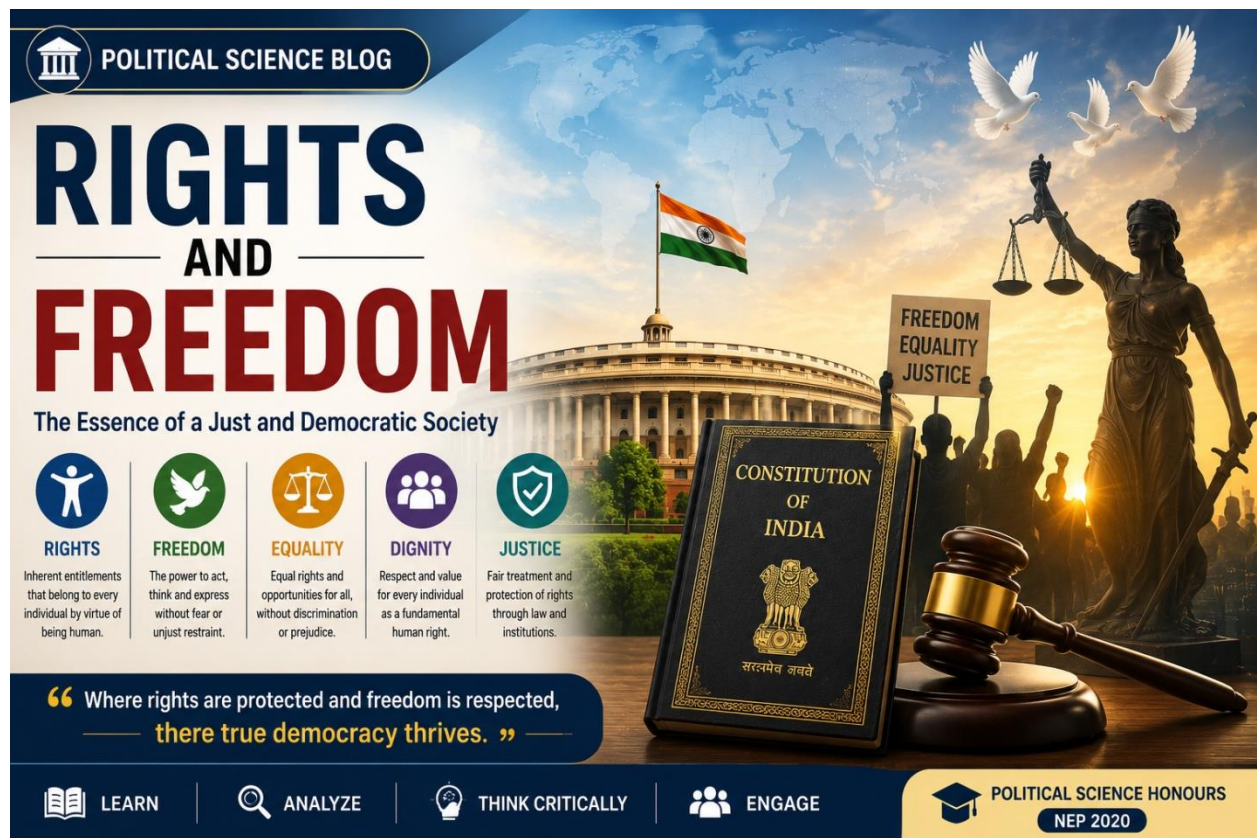
Legitimacy ensures public trust, voluntary obedience, political stability, and strengthens democratic governance.

Conclusion

Power, Authority, and Legitimacy are the pillars of every political system. Power enables governments to make decisions and enforce laws, authority provides the legal and constitutional right to exercise that power, and legitimacy ensures that citizens accept and support political rule. While power alone may compel obedience, authority and legitimacy create trust, stability, and voluntary cooperation. In democratic societies such as India, these concepts are strengthened through the Constitution, the rule of law, free and fair elections, and respect for citizens' rights. For **+3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)** students, understanding these concepts is essential for analyzing political institutions, governance, democracy, and public administration.

2) Rights and Freedom

Rights and Freedom – Complete Notes for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)



Title: Rights and Freedom | +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020) Complete Notes

eSikhya : Learn Rights and Freedom in Political Science with complete notes for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020). Meaning, definitions, types, characteristics, relationship, importance, Fundamental Rights, and FAQs.

Rights and Freedom

Rights and Freedom are among the most important concepts in Political Science and form the foundation of democracy, justice, equality, and human dignity. Every democratic society recognizes that individuals must enjoy certain rights and freedoms to live with dignity, develop their personality, and participate in political, social, and economic life.

While **rights** are legal or moral claims recognized and protected by society and the State, **freedom** refers to the ability of individuals to think, speak, act, and live without unnecessary restrictions. Rights and freedom are closely connected because rights protect freedom, and freedom enables individuals to exercise their rights responsibly.

For **+3 Political Science Honours students under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**, understanding Rights and Freedom is essential for studying constitutional democracy, human rights, political theory, public administration, and governance.

What are Rights?

Rights are the claims or entitlements that every individual enjoys and which are recognized and protected by society and the State.

In simple words:

Rights are legal or moral claims that enable individuals to live with dignity and participate fully in society.

Rights are essential for the physical, mental, social, and moral development of every person.

Definitions of Rights

Harold J. Laski

According to Laski:

"Rights are those conditions of social life without which no man can seek, in general, to be himself at his best."

Laski emphasized that rights are necessary for the full development of human personality.

T.H. Green

Green believed that rights are powers recognized by society for the common good.

Ernest Barker

According to Barker:

Rights are the capacity of individuals to develop themselves through social recognition and legal protection.

Characteristics of Rights

1. Social Recognition

Rights exist because society recognizes them.

2. Legal Protection

Modern democratic States protect rights through laws and constitutions.

3. Universal Nature

Basic human rights belong to every individual regardless of caste, religion, gender, race, or nationality.

4. Dynamic

Rights evolve with changing social, political, and economic conditions.

5. Linked with Duties

Every right carries a corresponding duty toward society and other individuals.

Types of Rights

1. Natural Rights

These are rights that individuals possess by virtue of being human.

Examples:

- Right to life
 - Right to liberty
-

2. Civil Rights

Rights that protect individuals in their daily lives.

Examples:

- Right to equality before law
 - Right to personal liberty
 - Right to property (legal right in India)
-

3. Political Rights

Rights that enable citizens to participate in government.

Examples:

- Right to vote
 - Right to contest elections
 - Right to form political parties
-

4. Economic Rights

Rights related to employment and economic security.

Examples:

- Right to work
 - Equal pay for equal work
 - Fair wages
-

5. Social Rights

Rights that promote social welfare.

Examples:

- Right to education
 - Right to healthcare
 - Right to social security
-

6. Cultural Rights

Rights that protect language, religion, traditions, and cultural identity.

7. Human Rights

Human Rights belong to every individual simply because they are human.

Examples include:

- Right to life
 - Freedom from torture
 - Freedom of expression
 - Right to education
-

Importance of Rights

Rights are important because they:

- Protect human dignity.
 - Promote equality.
 - Safeguard individual liberty.
 - Encourage democracy.
 - Prevent exploitation.
 - Promote social justice.
 - Support human development.
 - Ensure participation in governance.
-

What is Freedom?

Freedom means the ability of individuals to think, speak, act, and make choices without unnecessary restrictions, while respecting the rights of others and the law.

In simple words:

Freedom is the opportunity to live and act according to one's own choices within the limits of law and morality.

Freedom does not mean the absence of all restrictions; it means reasonable liberty under the rule of law.

Definitions of Freedom

John Stuart Mill

Mill argued that individuals should be free to act as they wish, provided they do not harm others.

Harold Laski

According to Laski:

Freedom is the atmosphere necessary for individuals to develop their personality.

Jean-Jacques Rousseau

Rousseau believed true freedom comes from obeying laws that reflect the **General Will** of the people.

Characteristics of Freedom

1. Responsibility

Freedom must be exercised responsibly.

2. Rule of Law

Freedom exists within constitutional and legal limits.

3. Equality

Freedom should be enjoyed equally by all citizens.

4. Protection of Rights

Freedom is meaningful only when rights are protected.

5. Democratic Nature

Freedom is a basic feature of democratic societies.

Types of Freedom

1. Natural Freedom

Freedom enjoyed by individuals in the state of nature.

2. Civil Freedom

Freedom protected by law.

Examples:

- Freedom of speech
 - Freedom of movement
 - Freedom of religion
-

3. Political Freedom

Freedom to participate in political activities.

Examples:

- Voting
 - Contesting elections
 - Joining political parties
-

4. Economic Freedom

Freedom to engage in lawful occupations, trade, and business.

5. National Freedom

Freedom of a nation from foreign domination.

Relationship Between Rights and Freedom

Rights and Freedom are complementary.

- Rights protect individual freedom.
- Freedom allows individuals to exercise their rights.
- Neither rights nor freedom can exist effectively without the other.
- Both are essential for democracy, justice, and human dignity.

For example, **freedom of speech** is protected as a constitutional right, enabling citizens to express their opinions while respecting reasonable legal restrictions.

Rights and Freedom in the Constitution of India

The Constitution of India guarantees several **Fundamental Rights** under **Part III (Articles 12–35)**.

1. Right to Equality (Articles 14–18)

Ensures equality before law and prohibits discrimination.

2. Right to Freedom (Articles 19–22)

Includes:

- Freedom of speech and expression
 - Freedom of assembly
 - Freedom to form associations
 - Freedom of movement
 - Freedom to reside anywhere in India
 - Freedom to practice any profession
-

3. Right against Exploitation (Articles 23–24)

Prohibits:

- Human trafficking
 - Forced labour
 - Child labour in hazardous industries
-

4. Right to Freedom of Religion (Articles 25–28)

Provides freedom to profess, practice, and propagate religion.

5. Cultural and Educational Rights (Articles 29–30)

Protect the interests of minorities and their educational institutions.

6. Right to Constitutional Remedies (Article 32)

Allows citizens to approach the Supreme Court for the protection of Fundamental Rights.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar called Article 32 the "**Heart and Soul of the Constitution.**"

Reasonable Restrictions on Freedom

Freedom is not absolute.

The Constitution allows reasonable restrictions in the interests of:

- National security
- Public order
- Morality
- Decency
- Friendly relations with foreign States
- Prevention of crime
- Protection of others' rights

Difference Between Rights and Freedom

Basis	Rights	Freedom
Meaning	Legal or moral claims	Ability to act without unnecessary restrictions
Protection	Protected by law	Protected through rights and law
Nature	Legal and social	Moral, political, and legal
Purpose	Protect individual interests	Promote personal development
Relationship	Provides legal protection	Enables exercise of rights

Importance of Rights and Freedom

Rights and Freedom:

- Strengthen democracy.
 - Protect human dignity.
 - Promote equality and justice.
 - Encourage citizen participation.
 - Prevent abuse of power.
 - Promote national development.
 - Ensure constitutional governance.
 - Foster responsible citizenship.
-

Rights and Freedom under NEP 2020

The **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020** emphasizes:

- Constitutional values
- Human rights
- Democratic citizenship
- Gender equality
- Social justice
- Ethical responsibility
- Critical thinking

Understanding Rights and Freedom helps students become informed, responsible, and active citizens.

Examination-Oriented Key Points

- Rights are legal and moral claims recognized by society.
 - Freedom means liberty within the limits of law.
 - Harold Laski emphasized the importance of rights and freedom for human development.
 - John Stuart Mill supported individual liberty through the **Harm Principle**.
 - The Constitution guarantees **six Fundamental Rights**.
 - Article 32 is called the **Heart and Soul of the Constitution**.
 - Rights and duties are inseparable.
 - Freedom must always be exercised responsibly.
-

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1. What are rights in Political Science?

Rights are legal or moral claims recognized and protected by society and the State, enabling individuals to live with dignity.

Q2. What is freedom?

Freedom is the ability to think, speak, and act according to one's choices within the limits of law and respect for others' rights.

Q3. What is the relationship between rights and freedom?

Rights provide legal protection for freedom, while freedom enables individuals to enjoy and exercise their rights responsibly.

Q4. Which Fundamental Right protects freedom in India?

The **Right to Freedom (Articles 19–22)** protects freedoms such as speech, movement, association, residence, and profession.

Q5. Why are rights and freedom important in a democracy?

They protect individual dignity, ensure equality, encourage participation, limit arbitrary government power, and strengthen democratic governance.

Conclusion

Rights and Freedom are the cornerstones of a democratic society and essential for the development of every individual. Rights provide legal and moral protection, while freedom enables people to express themselves, participate in public life, and pursue personal growth within the framework of law. The Constitution of India guarantees Fundamental Rights to ensure equality, liberty, justice, and dignity for all citizens, while also permitting reasonable restrictions to protect public order and the rights of others. Together, rights and freedom create the foundation of constitutional democracy, responsible citizenship, and good governance. For **+3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)** students, a clear understanding of these concepts is crucial for studying political theory, constitutional law, human rights, and democratic institutions.

3) Equality and Justice

Equality and Justice – Complete Notes for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)



Title: Equality and Justice | +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020) Complete Notes

eSikhya : Learn Equality and Justice in Political Science with complete notes for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020). Meaning, definitions, types, principles, relationship, constitutional provisions, and examination notes.

Equality and Justice

Equality and **Justice** are two of the most fundamental principles of Political Science and democratic governance. Every democratic society aims to create a system where all individuals are treated fairly, enjoy equal opportunities, and receive justice without discrimination. These values form the foundation of constitutional government, human rights, and the rule of law.

Although equality and justice are closely related, they are not identical. **Equality** means providing equal status, opportunities, and protection under the law, while **Justice** refers to fairness in the distribution of rights, duties, opportunities, and resources. A democratic State seeks to balance both concepts to ensure social harmony and human dignity.

For +3 **Political Science Honours students under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**, understanding Equality and Justice is essential for studying political theory, constitutional law, democracy, governance, public administration, and human rights.

What is Equality?

Equality means that every individual is entitled to equal dignity, equal treatment, and equal opportunities before the law, without discrimination based on religion, caste, gender, race, language, or place of birth.

Equality does **not** mean that everyone is identical in abilities or achievements. Instead, it means that every person should have an equal chance to develop their potential.

In simple words:

Equality means equal rights, equal opportunities, and equal protection under the law for all individuals.

Definitions of Equality

Harold J. Laski

According to Harold Laski:

"Equality does not mean that every person should be treated identically, but that every individual should have equal opportunities for development."

Ernest Barker

Barker believed that equality means providing equal opportunities while recognizing differences among individuals.

Jean-Jacques Rousseau

Rousseau argued that political equality is essential for democracy and that laws should reflect the **General Will** of the people.

Characteristics of Equality

1. Equality Before Law

Every citizen is equal before the law.

2. Equal Opportunity

All individuals should have equal opportunities in education, employment, and public life.

3. Absence of Discrimination

No person should face discrimination on the basis of caste, religion, gender, language, or race.

4. Equal Rights

Citizens should enjoy equal civil and political rights.

5. Human Dignity

Equality recognizes the equal worth and dignity of every individual.

Types of Equality

1. Legal Equality

All individuals are equal before the law and entitled to equal legal protection.

Example:

Article 14 of the Constitution of India guarantees equality before law.

2. Political Equality

Every citizen has equal political rights.

Examples:

- Right to vote
 - Right to contest elections
 - Right to participate in political activities
-

3. Social Equality

Social equality aims to eliminate discrimination based on caste, religion, gender, ethnicity, or social status.

4. Economic Equality

Economic equality seeks to reduce excessive inequalities in income and wealth and ensure fair access to resources and opportunities.

5. Equality of Opportunity

Every individual should have an equal chance to achieve success based on talent, effort, and merit rather than social background.

Importance of Equality

Equality is important because it:

- Promotes human dignity.
- Strengthens democracy.
- Reduces discrimination.
- Encourages social harmony.
- Ensures equal opportunities.
- Protects human rights.
- Supports national development.
- Promotes social justice.

What is Justice?

Justice refers to fairness in the treatment of individuals and the distribution of rights, duties, opportunities, rewards, and punishments.

In simple words:

Justice means giving every individual what is fair and due according to law, morality, and equity.

Justice is one of the primary objectives of every democratic State.

Definitions of Justice

Plato

Plato believed:

Justice means that every individual performs the duty best suited to their abilities, creating harmony in society.

Aristotle

Aristotle defined justice as:

"Treat equals equally and unequals unequally according to their merits."

This idea emphasizes fairness rather than identical treatment.

John Rawls

John Rawls described justice as **"fairness."**

According to Rawls:

- Every person should enjoy equal basic liberties.
 - Social and economic inequalities are acceptable only if they benefit the least advantaged members of society (Difference Principle).
-

Characteristics of Justice

1. Fairness

Justice ensures fair treatment for everyone.

2. Rule of Law

Justice is administered according to legal principles.

3. Equality

Justice requires equal protection of rights.

4. Protection of Rights

Justice safeguards civil, political, economic, and social rights.

5. Social Harmony

Justice promotes peace and stability within society.

Types of Justice

1. Social Justice

Ensures equal opportunities and removes discrimination.

Examples:

- Reservation policies
- Welfare schemes
- Social reforms

2. Economic Justice

Promotes fair distribution of resources and opportunities.

Examples:

- Minimum wages
- Equal pay for equal work
- Poverty alleviation programmes

3. Political Justice

Guarantees equal political participation.

Examples:

- Universal adult franchise
 - Free and fair elections
 - Political equality
-

4. Legal Justice

Ensures impartial application of laws.

Examples:

- Independent judiciary
 - Fair trials
 - Equal access to justice
-

5. Distributive Justice

Concerns the fair distribution of wealth, opportunities, and resources among members of society.

6. Corrective Justice

Focuses on correcting wrongs through legal remedies and compensation.

Relationship Between Equality and Justice

Equality and Justice are closely connected.

- Equality provides equal rights and opportunities.
- Justice ensures that these rights and opportunities are applied fairly.
- Justice without equality may lead to discrimination.
- Equality without justice may ignore genuine differences and special needs.

A democratic State seeks to achieve both equality and justice through constitutional laws, public policies, and social welfare programmes.

Equality and Justice in the Constitution of India

The Constitution of India reflects both equality and justice.

Preamble

The Preamble promises:

- **Justice** – Social, Economic, and Political.
 - **Equality** – Of status and opportunity.
-

Fundamental Rights

Article 14

Equality before law and equal protection of laws.

Article 15

Prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth.

Article 16

Equality of opportunity in public employment.

Article 17

Abolishes untouchability.

Article 18

Abolishes titles (except military and academic distinctions).

Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSPs)

The DPSPs promote:

- Social justice
 - Economic justice
 - Equal pay for equal work
 - Welfare of weaker sections
 - Reduction of inequalities
-

Difference Between Equality and Justice

Basis	Equality	Justice
Meaning	Equal rights and opportunities	Fairness in treatment and distribution
Objective	Remove discrimination	Ensure fairness and protect rights
Nature	Equal status	Fair treatment according to law and equity
Focus	Equal opportunity	Fair distribution of rights, duties, and resources
Relationship	Supports justice	Makes equality meaningful

Equality and Justice under NEP 2020

The **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020** emphasizes:

- Constitutional values
- Inclusion and equity in education
- Gender equality
- Social justice
- Critical thinking
- Democratic citizenship
- Respect for diversity

The policy seeks to ensure that every learner receives equal educational opportunities while promoting fairness and social responsibility.

Examination-Oriented Key Points

- Equality means equal rights, opportunities, and protection under the law.
 - Justice means fairness in the treatment of individuals.
 - **Harold Laski** emphasized equality of opportunity.
 - **Aristotle** viewed justice as treating equals equally and unequals according to merit.
 - **John Rawls** explained justice as fairness.
 - The Preamble guarantees **Justice** and **Equality**.
 - Articles **14–18** deal with the Right to Equality.
 - Equality and justice are complementary principles of democracy.
-

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1. What is equality in Political Science?

Equality means providing every individual with equal rights, opportunities, and protection under the law without discrimination.

Q2. What is justice?

Justice is the principle of fairness in the distribution of rights, duties, opportunities, and legal protection.

Q3. What is the difference between equality and justice?

Equality focuses on equal rights and opportunities, whereas justice focuses on fairness and equitable treatment according to law and circumstances.

Q4. Who explained justice as fairness?

John Rawls described justice as fairness.

Q5. Which Articles of the Indian Constitution deal with the Right to Equality?

Articles **14 to 18** guarantee the Right to Equality.

Conclusion

Equality and Justice are the foundation of democracy, constitutional governance, and human rights. Equality ensures that every individual enjoys equal dignity, opportunities, and legal protection, while justice guarantees fairness in the distribution of rights, duties, and resources. Together, these principles promote social harmony, protect human dignity, and strengthen democratic institutions. The Constitution of India embodies these ideals through the Preamble, Fundamental Rights, and Directive Principles of State Policy, aiming to build an inclusive and equitable society. For **+3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)** students, a clear understanding of Equality and Justice is essential for analyzing political theory, public policy, constitutional law, and democratic governance.

Unit-IV: Democracy

1) Meaning of Democracy

Meaning of Democracy – Complete Notes for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)



Title: Meaning of Democracy | +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020) Complete Notes

eSikhya : Learn the Meaning of Democracy for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020). Complete notes covering definitions, features, principles, types, merits, demerits, importance, and the Indian context.

Meaning of Democracy

Democracy is one of the most significant concepts in Political Science and the most widely accepted form of government in the modern world. It is a political system in which **the people are the ultimate source of political power**. Citizens participate directly or indirectly in governance through elections, public debate, and democratic institutions.

The word **democracy** is derived from the Greek words **Demos** (people) and **Kratos** (rule or power). Thus, democracy literally means "**rule of the people**."

In a democratic system, the government derives its authority from the consent of the governed and is accountable to the people. Democracy not only refers to a form of government but also represents a way of life based on liberty, equality, justice, participation, tolerance, and the rule of law.

For +3 Political Science Honours students under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, understanding the meaning of democracy is essential for studying political theory, constitutional government, public administration, comparative politics, and human rights.

Origin of the Term Democracy

The term **Democracy** originated in **Ancient Greece**, particularly in the city-state of **Athens** around the **5th century BCE**.

- **Demos** = People
- **Kratos** = Rule or Power

The Athenian model of democracy allowed eligible male citizens to participate directly in decision-making. Although this system excluded women, slaves, and foreigners, it laid the foundation for the development of modern democratic ideas.

Definitions of Democracy

Abraham Lincoln

One of the most famous definitions of democracy was given by Abraham Lincoln:

"Democracy is government of the people, by the people, and for the people."

This definition emphasizes that political power belongs to the people and should be exercised for their welfare.

Lord Bryce

According to Lord Bryce:

"Democracy is that form of government in which the ruling power of the State is legally vested, not in any particular class, but in the members of the community as a whole."

A.V. Dicey

Dicey described democracy as a system in which the people participate in governance through elected representatives under the rule of law.

Joseph Schumpeter

Schumpeter viewed democracy as:

A system in which political leaders are selected through competitive elections in which citizens choose their representatives.

This modern definition highlights the importance of free and fair elections.

Characteristics of Democracy

1. Popular Sovereignty

The ultimate source of political authority is the people.

2. Rule of Law

Everyone, including the government, is subject to the law.

3. Free and Fair Elections

Citizens choose their representatives through periodic elections.

4. Universal Adult Franchise

Every adult citizen has the right to vote without discrimination based on caste, religion, gender, race, or wealth.

5. Protection of Fundamental Rights

Democracy guarantees freedoms such as:

- Freedom of speech
 - Freedom of religion
 - Freedom of association
 - Freedom of movement
-

6. Independent Judiciary

Courts protect constitutional rights and ensure justice.

7. Political Equality

Every citizen has an equal political voice and equal voting rights.

8. Accountability and Transparency

Governments are accountable to the people and must function transparently.

9. Peaceful Change of Government

Governments can be changed peacefully through elections.

10. Respect for Minority Rights

Democracy protects both majority rule and minority rights.

Principles of Democracy

The success of democracy depends on several fundamental principles.

Liberty

Citizens enjoy freedom of thought, speech, religion, and expression.

Equality

All citizens are equal before the law and have equal opportunities.

Justice

The legal system ensures fairness and protects rights.

Participation

Citizens actively participate in elections and public affairs.

Tolerance

Democracy respects diverse opinions, beliefs, and cultures.

Rule of Law

No individual or institution is above the law.

Accountability

Governments remain responsible to the people.

Types of Democracy

1. Direct Democracy

In direct democracy, citizens participate personally in decision-making.

Examples:

- Ancient Athens
 - Modern referendums in some countries
-

2. Indirect (Representative) Democracy

Citizens elect representatives to govern on their behalf.

Examples:

- India
- United Kingdom
- Canada
- Australia

This is the most common form of democracy today.

3. Parliamentary Democracy

The executive is responsible to the legislature.

Example:

- India
 - United Kingdom
-

4. Presidential Democracy

The President is both the head of State and head of Government.

Example:

- United States
-

Merits of Democracy

Democracy offers several advantages.

Protection of Rights

Citizens enjoy constitutional rights and civil liberties.

Political Participation

People actively participate in governance.

Peaceful Transfer of Power

Governments change through elections rather than violence.

Accountable Government

Leaders remain answerable to the public.

Promotion of Equality

Democracy recognizes equal political rights for all citizens.

Social Welfare

Governments formulate policies for public welfare.

Respect for Human Dignity

Every individual is treated with dignity and respect.

Demerits of Democracy

Despite its strengths, democracy also faces certain challenges.

Slow Decision-Making

Public consultation and legislative procedures may delay decisions.

Political Instability

Frequent changes in government can affect policy continuity.

Electoral Malpractices

Money power, corruption, and misinformation may influence elections.

Majority Domination

Majority decisions may overlook minority interests if constitutional safeguards are weak.

Lack of Political Awareness

Low political literacy can affect informed voting.

Essential Conditions for Successful Democracy

A successful democracy requires:

- Educated and informed citizens
 - Free and fair elections
 - Independent judiciary
 - Rule of law
 - Free press
 - Strong opposition
 - Political tolerance
 - Respect for constitutional values
 - Responsible leadership
 - Active civil society
-

Democracy in India

India is the **world's largest democracy**.

The **Preamble to the Constitution of India** declares India to be a **Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic Republic**.

Important democratic features of India include:

- Universal Adult Franchise
 - Parliamentary System
 - Independent Judiciary
 - Fundamental Rights
 - Federal Structure
 - Rule of Law
 - Multi-party System
 - Regular Elections
 - Fundamental Duties
 - Local Self-Government (Panchayati Raj and Urban Local Bodies)
-

Democracy under NEP 2020

The **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020** emphasizes:

- Constitutional values
- Democratic citizenship
- Critical thinking
- Ethical leadership
- Human rights
- Gender equality
- Social justice
- Active participation in society

Studying democracy helps students understand their rights, duties, and responsibilities as informed citizens.

Difference Between Direct and Representative Democracy

Basis	Direct Democracy	Representative Democracy
Decision Making	Citizens decide directly	Elected representatives decide
Citizen Participation	Direct	Indirect
Suitable For	Small communities	Large countries
Example	Ancient Athens	India, United Kingdom

Examination-Oriented Key Points

- Democracy means "**rule of the people.**"
 - The term democracy comes from the Greek words **Demos** and **Kratos**.
 - **Abraham Lincoln** defined democracy as "**Government of the people, by the people, for the people.**"
 - Democracy is based on **popular sovereignty**.
 - Modern democracies are generally **representative democracies**.
 - India follows a **Parliamentary Democratic System**.
 - Free and fair elections are essential for democracy.
 - Democracy protects **Fundamental Rights**, equality, and the rule of law.
-

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1. What is democracy in Political Science?

Democracy is a form of government in which political power ultimately belongs to the people, who govern directly or through elected representatives.

Q2. Who gave the famous definition of democracy?

Abraham Lincoln gave the famous definition: "**Government of the people, by the people, and for the people.**"

Q3. What are the main features of democracy?

Popular sovereignty, free and fair elections, rule of law, protection of rights, political equality, independent judiciary, and accountable government.

Q4. What is the difference between direct and representative democracy?

In direct democracy, citizens participate personally in decision-making, whereas in representative democracy they elect representatives to govern on their behalf.

Q5. Why is democracy important?

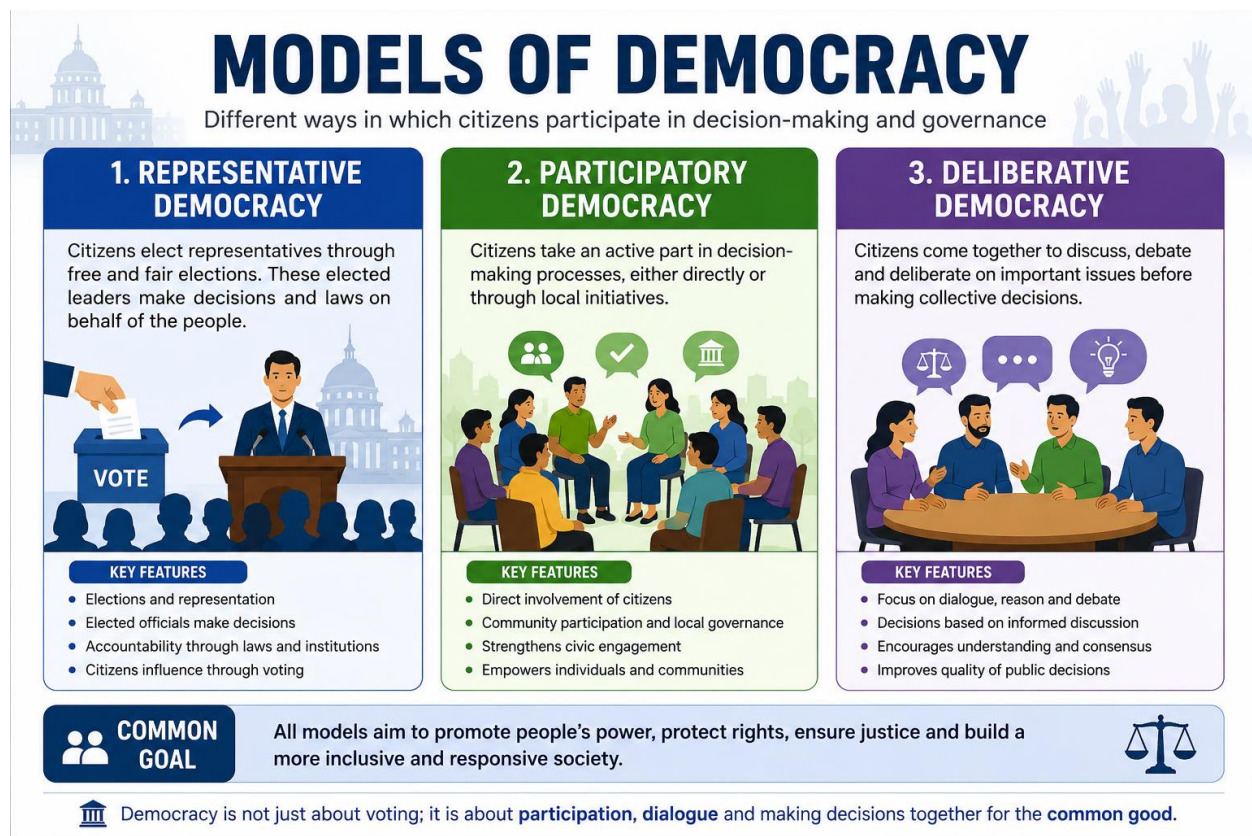
Democracy protects human rights, promotes equality, ensures public participation, strengthens accountability, and supports peaceful political change.

Conclusion

Democracy is more than a form of government; it is a system of governance and a way of life based on liberty, equality, justice, participation, and respect for human dignity. It empowers citizens to choose their representatives, hold governments accountable, and participate in public affairs through democratic institutions. Although democracy faces challenges such as political instability, corruption, and delays in decision-making, it remains the most widely accepted system because it protects individual rights and promotes constitutional governance. In India, democracy is deeply rooted in the Constitution and is reflected through universal adult franchise, parliamentary government, independent judiciary, and the rule of law. For **+3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)** students, understanding the meaning and principles of democracy provides a strong foundation for the study of political theory, constitutional law, governance, and public administration.

2) Models of democracy : Representative, Participatory and deliberative democracy

Models of Democracy: Representative, Participatory and Deliberative Democracy – Complete Notes for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)



Title: Models of Democracy: Representative, Participatory and Deliberative Democracy | +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)

eSikhya : Complete notes on Models of Democracy: Representative, Participatory and Deliberative Democracy for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020). Meaning, features, thinkers, merits, limitations, and comparison.

Models of Democracy: Representative, Participatory and Deliberative Democracy

Democracy is not a single fixed system; it has developed into different models based on different ideas about **citizen participation, political decision-making, representation, and public discussion**. Political thinkers have proposed various models of democracy to explain how people should exercise political power.

The three major models of modern democracy are:

1. **Representative Democracy**
2. **Participatory Democracy**
3. **Deliberative Democracy**

These models provide different answers to an important question:

How should citizens participate in political decision-making?

For **+3 Political Science Honours under NEP 2020**, the study of democratic models helps students understand modern political systems, citizenship, governance, and democratic practices.

1. Representative Democracy

Meaning of Representative Democracy

Representative democracy is a system in which citizens do not directly participate in every political decision. Instead, they elect representatives who make decisions and formulate policies on their behalf.

In large modern States, direct participation of all citizens in every matter is practically impossible. Therefore, representation becomes necessary.

In simple words:

Representative democracy is a system where people govern themselves through elected representatives.

Definitions of Representative Democracy

Joseph Schumpeter

Schumpeter defined democracy as:

"An institutional arrangement for arriving at political decisions in which individuals acquire the power to decide by means of a competitive struggle for the people's vote."

According to Schumpeter, elections and competition among political leaders are the central features of democracy.

Robert Dahl

Robert Dahl emphasized that democracy requires:

- Political participation
 - Free elections
 - Public competition
 - Equality of voting rights
-

Features of Representative Democracy

1. Election of Representatives

Citizens choose leaders through free and fair elections.

2. Majority Rule

Decisions are generally based on majority support while protecting minority rights.

3. Political Parties

Political parties organize elections and represent different interests.

4. Constitutional Government

Government functions according to constitutional rules.

5. Accountability

Representatives are accountable to citizens through elections.

6. Rule of Law

All citizens and institutions are governed by law.

Examples of Representative Democracy

- India
- United Kingdom
- United States
- Canada
- Australia

India follows a **parliamentary representative democracy** where citizens elect representatives to Parliament and State Legislatures.

Merits of Representative Democracy

1. Practical for Large Countries

It is suitable for countries with millions of citizens.

2. Efficient Decision-Making

Elected representatives can make decisions more efficiently.

3. Political Stability

Regular elections provide peaceful transfer of power.

4. Protection of Rights

Constitutions protect individual rights and freedoms.

5. Expert Decision-Making

Representatives can focus on complex policy issues.

Limitations of Representative Democracy

1. Limited Citizen Participation

Citizens participate mainly during elections.

2. Possibility of Elite Control

Power may remain concentrated among political elites.

3. Lack of Direct Public Influence

People may have limited influence between elections.

4. Electoral Problems

Issues such as corruption, money power, and misinformation may affect elections.

2. Participatory Democracy

Meaning of Participatory Democracy

Participatory democracy emphasizes the active involvement of citizens in political decision-making beyond voting.

It argues that democracy should not be limited to elections; citizens should participate regularly in public affairs.

In simple words:

Participatory democracy means direct and active involvement of citizens in political processes.

Major Thinkers of Participatory Democracy

Jean-Jacques Rousseau

Rousseau is considered one of the important supporters of participatory democracy.

He believed that:

- Sovereignty belongs to the people.
 - Citizens should directly participate in making laws.
 - Political participation develops freedom and responsibility.
-

Carole Pateman

Carole Pateman emphasized that participation helps citizens develop political skills and democratic awareness.

Her famous work:

"Participation and Democratic Theory" (1970)

Features of Participatory Democracy

1. Active Citizen Participation

Citizens participate directly in decision-making.

2. Political Equality

Every citizen has equal opportunities to participate.

3. Decentralization

Political power is distributed to local communities.

4. Public Control

Citizens monitor and influence government decisions.

5. Grassroots Democracy

Decision-making occurs at the local level.

Examples:

- Local self-government
 - Village meetings
 - Community participation
-

Examples of Participatory Democracy

- Gram Sabha in India
- Local government institutions
- Referendums
- Public consultations

The **Panchayati Raj System** in India promotes participatory democracy by involving citizens at the grassroots level.

Merits of Participatory Democracy

1. Increases Political Awareness

Citizens become more informed about political issues.

2. Strengthens Democracy

Active participation makes democracy deeper and stronger.

3. Improves Accountability

Governments become more responsive to citizens.

4. Develops Citizenship

Participation creates responsible citizens.

5. Reduces Political Alienation

People feel connected with government decisions.

Limitations of Participatory Democracy

1. Difficult in Large Societies

Direct participation of everyone is challenging.

2. Time-Consuming

Public discussion may delay decisions.

3. Unequal Participation

Some groups may participate more than others.

4. Lack of Expertise

Citizens may not always have technical knowledge about complex issues.

3. Deliberative Democracy

Meaning of Deliberative Democracy

Deliberative democracy focuses on discussion, reasoning, and public debate before making political decisions.

It argues that democracy should not only be based on voting but also on rational communication and exchange of ideas.

In simple words:

Deliberative democracy is a model where citizens make decisions through discussion, debate, and reasoned argument.

Major Thinker of Deliberative Democracy

Jürgen Habermas

Jürgen Habermas is considered the leading theorist of deliberative democracy.

He developed the concept of:

"Public Sphere"

According to Habermas:

- Citizens should freely discuss public issues.
 - Decisions should be based on rational arguments.
 - Communication should be free from domination.
-

Features of Deliberative Democracy

1. Public Discussion

Citizens discuss and debate political issues.

2. Rational Decision-Making

Decisions are based on reasons and arguments rather than only majority power.

3. Equal Participation

All individuals should have equal opportunities to express views.

4. Consensus Building

The aim is to reach common understanding through dialogue.

5. Transparency

Political decisions should be open and publicly justified.

Examples of Deliberative Democracy

- Citizens' assemblies
 - Public hearings
 - Constitutional debates
 - Policy consultations
-

Merits of Deliberative Democracy

1. Better Decisions

Discussion improves the quality of decisions.

2. Respect for Different Opinions

It encourages tolerance and understanding.

3. Reduces Conflict

Dialogue helps resolve disagreements peacefully.

4. Strengthens Legitimacy

People accept decisions when they are based on open discussion.

Limitations of Deliberative Democracy

1. Time-Consuming Process

Extensive discussion can slow decision-making.

2. Unequal Communication

Powerful groups may dominate discussions.

3. Difficult Implementation

Large populations make continuous deliberation difficult.

Difference Between Representative, Participatory and Deliberative Democracy

Basis	Representative Democracy	Participatory Democracy	Deliberative Democracy
Meaning	Citizens elect representatives	Citizens directly participate	Citizens discuss and debate decisions
Main Focus	Representation	Active participation	Public reasoning
Role of Citizens	Mainly voting	Continuous involvement	Discussion and dialogue
Major Thinker	Joseph Schumpeter	Rousseau, Carole Pateman	Jürgen Habermas
Decision Method	Elections	Direct participation	Deliberation and consensus
Example	Indian Parliament	Gram Sabha	Citizens' assemblies

Relationship Between the Three Models

These models are not completely separate. Modern democracies often combine elements of all three.

For example, India has:

- **Representative Democracy** – Elections and Parliament
- **Participatory Democracy** – Panchayati Raj and Gram Sabha
- **Deliberative Democracy** – Parliamentary debates and public consultations

A successful democracy requires:

- Representation
 - Citizen participation
 - Public discussion
-

Importance of Democratic Models under NEP 2020

The study of democratic models helps students understand:

- Democratic citizenship
- Political participation
- Governance systems
- Public policy-making
- Constitutional values
- Social justice
- Accountability

NEP 2020 emphasizes active citizenship, critical thinking, and democratic awareness among students.

Examination-Oriented Key Points

- Representative democracy is based on elected representatives.
 - Joseph Schumpeter emphasized competitive elections.
 - Rousseau supported direct participation of citizens.
 - Carole Pateman developed participatory democratic theory.
 - Jürgen Habermas is the main thinker of deliberative democracy.
 - Participatory democracy promotes grassroots involvement.
 - Deliberative democracy emphasizes discussion and rational debate.
 - Modern democracies combine all three models.
-

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1. What is representative democracy?

Representative democracy is a system where citizens elect representatives who make decisions on their behalf.

Q2. Who is associated with participatory democracy?

Jean-Jacques Rousseau and Carole Pateman are important thinkers associated with participatory democracy.

Q3. What is deliberative democracy?

Deliberative democracy is a model that emphasizes public discussion, reasoning, and dialogue in decision-making.

Q4. Who is the main thinker of deliberative democracy?

Jürgen Habermas is considered the leading thinker of deliberative democracy.

Q5. Which model is followed by India?

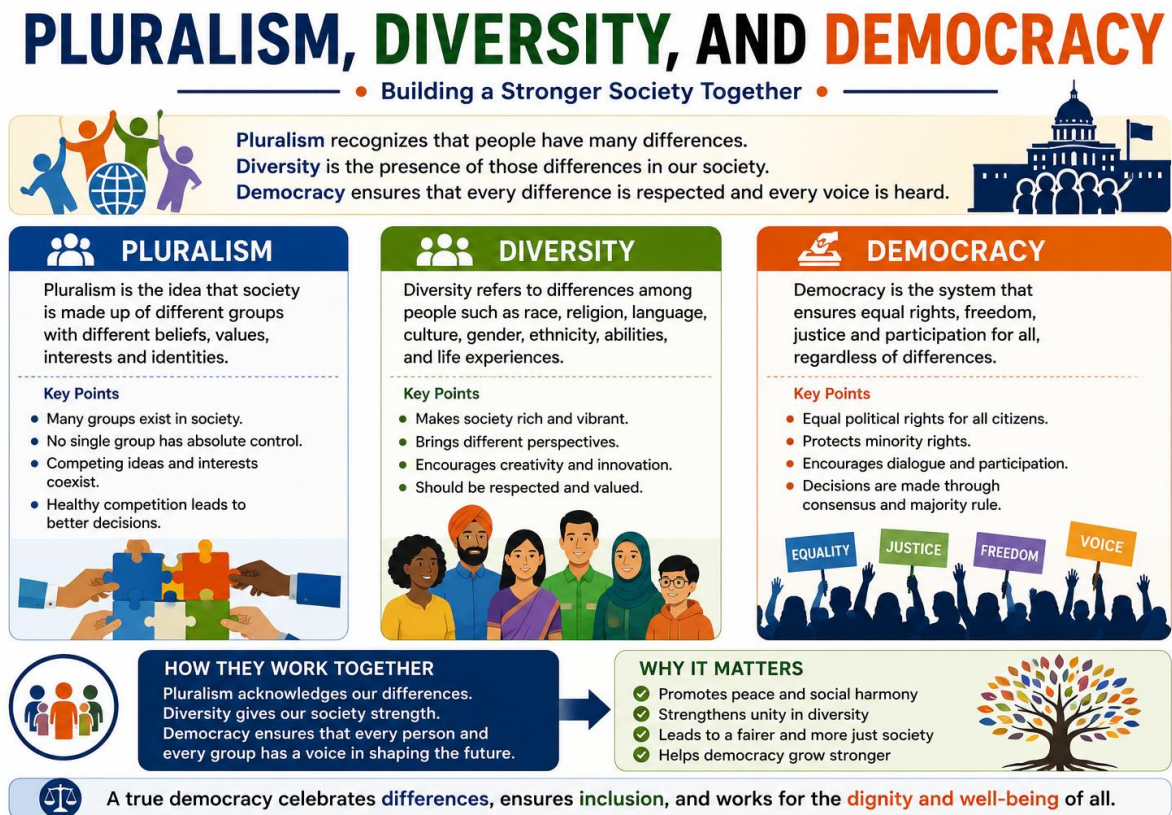
India mainly follows representative democracy but also includes participatory and deliberative elements.

Conclusion

The three models of democracy—**Representative, Participatory, and Deliberative Democracy**—explain different ways of organizing democratic governance. Representative democracy emphasizes elected leadership and is suitable for large modern States. Participatory democracy focuses on direct involvement of citizens in political processes, while deliberative democracy highlights discussion, reason, and consensus-building. Modern democratic systems combine elements of all three models to improve participation, accountability, and legitimacy. Understanding these models is essential for **+3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)** students to analyze contemporary democracy, governance, and citizen participation.

3) Pluralism, Diversity And Democracy

Pluralism, Diversity, And Democracy – Complete Notes for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)



Title: Pluralism, Diversity and Democracy | +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020) Complete Notes

eSikhya : Complete notes on Pluralism, Diversity and Democracy for +3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020). Learn meaning, features, relationship, thinkers, challenges, and importance in democratic societies.

Pluralism, Diversity, and Democracy

Modern democratic societies are characterized by differences in **religion, language, culture, ethnicity, ideology, social identity, and political interests**. The existence of these differences is known as **diversity**, while the recognition and accommodation of different groups and viewpoints is called **pluralism**.

Democracy becomes meaningful when it accepts diversity and provides equal opportunities for different groups to participate in political processes. A democratic system does not aim to eliminate differences; rather, it manages differences through dialogue, equality, tolerance, and constitutional mechanisms.

For **+3 Political Science Honours students under NEP 2020**, the study of pluralism, diversity, and democracy is important for understanding citizenship, multiculturalism, social justice, political participation, and governance.

Meaning of Pluralism

Pluralism is a political and social theory that recognizes the existence of multiple groups, interests, values, and sources of power within society.

In simple words:

Pluralism means the acceptance and recognition of diversity of opinions, groups, and interests in society.

According to pluralists, political power should not be concentrated in the hands of a single authority or group. Different social groups should have opportunities to influence decision-making.

Definitions of Pluralism

Harold J. Laski

Harold Laski argued that society consists of various associations and groups, and the State is only one among many social institutions.

He supported the idea of **social pluralism**, where different groups share authority.

G.D.H. Cole

Cole believed that individuals participate in society through various associations such as:

- Trade unions
- Professional groups
- Communities
- Social organizations

These groups contribute to democratic life.

Robert Dahl

Robert Dahl developed the concept of **Polyarchy**, arguing that democracy requires competition among multiple groups and centers of power.

Characteristics of Pluralism

1. Multiple Groups and Interests

Society consists of different communities, organizations, and interest groups.

2. Distribution of Power

Power is shared among different groups rather than controlled by one authority.

3. Tolerance and Respect

Pluralism promotes acceptance of different opinions and identities.

4. Participation

Citizens participate through various organizations and institutions.

5. Opposition to Absolute Authority

Pluralists oppose the concentration of power in a single institution.

Meaning of Diversity

Diversity refers to the existence of differences among individuals and groups within a society.

These differences may include:

- Religion
- Language
- Culture
- Ethnicity
- Gender
- Region
- Social background
- Political beliefs

In simple words:

Diversity means the presence of different identities, cultures, and viewpoints within a society.

Types of Diversity

1. Cultural Diversity

Differences in traditions, customs, languages, and lifestyles.

Example:

India's different regional cultures and traditions.

2. Religious Diversity

The existence of multiple religious beliefs and practices.

3. Linguistic Diversity

The presence of different languages within a society.

Example:

India recognizes multiple languages under the Constitution.

4. Social Diversity

Differences based on caste, class, gender, and social groups.

5. Political Diversity

The existence of different political opinions, parties, and ideologies.

Meaning of Democracy

Democracy is a system of government in which political power belongs to the people, who exercise it directly or through elected representatives.

According to Abraham Lincoln:

"Democracy is government of the people, by the people, and for the people."

Democracy is based on:

- Equality
 - Liberty
 - Participation
 - Rule of law
 - Protection of rights
-

Relationship Between Pluralism, Diversity, and Democracy

Pluralism, diversity, and democracy are closely connected.

1. Democracy Recognizes Diversity

Democratic systems accept that societies contain different groups and opinions.

2. Pluralism Strengthens Democracy

Pluralism allows different groups to participate in decision-making, making democracy more inclusive.

3. Diversity Requires Democratic Institutions

Constitutional rights, elections, and representation help manage social differences peacefully.

4. Democracy Protects Minority Rights

Democracy ensures that majority rule does not become domination over minorities.

Pluralism and Democracy

Pluralism is considered an essential feature of democratic society.

A pluralist democracy allows:

- Multiple political parties
- Free media
- Interest groups
- Civil society organizations
- Freedom of expression
- Public debate

According to pluralists, democracy is not only about elections but also about continuous participation of different groups.

Importance of Pluralism in Democracy

1. Prevents Concentration of Power

Pluralism prevents one group from controlling the entire political system.

2. Encourages Participation

Different groups get opportunities to express their interests.

3. Protects Individual Freedom

Pluralism supports freedom of thought, expression, and association.

4. Promotes Political Stability

Accommodation of differences reduces conflicts.

5. Strengthens Representation

Different social groups can influence government policies.

Diversity and Democracy in India

India is one of the world's most diverse societies, with differences in:

- Religion
- Language
- Culture
- Region
- Ethnicity
- Social groups

The Indian Constitution promotes unity in diversity through:

1. Fundamental Rights

Guarantee equality, freedom, and protection against discrimination.

2. Secularism

The State respects all religions equally.

3. Federalism

Power is divided between the Union and State governments.

4. Cultural and Educational Rights

Protect minority cultures and languages.

5. Democratic Representation

Elections allow different groups to participate in governance.

Challenges of Pluralism and Diversity

Although diversity enriches democracy, it also creates challenges.

1. Social Conflict

Differences may sometimes lead to tensions between groups.

2. Identity Politics

Political competition based only on identity may create divisions.

3. Inequality

Social and economic inequalities can prevent equal participation.

4. Majoritarianism

The majority group may attempt to dominate minorities.

5. Lack of Tolerance

Extreme views and intolerance can weaken democracy.

Ways to Strengthen Pluralistic Democracy

A democratic society can manage diversity through:

1. Constitutional Protection

Guaranteeing equal rights for all citizens.

2. Inclusive Policies

Ensuring participation of disadvantaged groups.

3. Education

Promoting awareness, tolerance, and democratic values.

4. Dialogue and Debate

Resolving conflicts through peaceful discussion.

5. Respect for Human Rights

Protecting dignity and freedom of all individuals.

Pluralism, Diversity and Democracy under NEP 2020

The **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020** emphasizes:

- Constitutional values
- Equality and inclusion
- Respect for diversity
- Democratic citizenship
- Social justice
- Critical thinking

Understanding pluralism and diversity helps students appreciate India's multicultural society and participate responsibly in democratic life.

Difference Between Pluralism and Diversity

Basis	Pluralism	Diversity
Meaning	Recognition and acceptance of different groups and interests	Existence of differences in society
Nature	Political and social principle	Social condition
Focus	Participation and accommodation	Variety of identities and cultures
Objective	Sharing of power and representation	Recognition of differences

Examination-Oriented Key Points

- Pluralism recognizes multiple groups, interests, and sources of power.
 - Diversity refers to differences among people and communities.
 - Democracy requires acceptance of diversity.
 - Harold Laski supported social pluralism.
 - Robert Dahl developed the idea of polyarchy.
 - India represents the principle of "**Unity in Diversity.**"
 - Constitutional rights protect pluralism and diversity.
 - Minority rights are essential for democratic stability.
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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1. What is pluralism in Political Science?

Pluralism is the theory that society consists of multiple groups and interests that should participate in political decision-making.

Q2. What is diversity?

Diversity refers to the existence of differences in culture, religion, language, ethnicity, gender, and social identity within society.

Q3. How does democracy protect diversity?

Democracy protects diversity through constitutional rights, equal representation, freedom of expression, and participation.

Q4. Who are the important thinkers of pluralism?

Harold Laski, G.D.H. Cole, and Robert Dahl are important pluralist thinkers.

Q5. Why is pluralism important for democracy?

Pluralism prevents concentration of power, encourages participation, protects minority rights, and strengthens democratic governance.

Conclusion

Pluralism, Diversity, and Democracy are interconnected concepts that form the foundation of inclusive political systems. Diversity reflects the differences present in society, while pluralism provides a framework for recognizing and accommodating these differences. Democracy becomes stronger when it respects multiple identities, encourages participation, protects minority rights, and promotes equality. In a diverse country like India, democratic institutions play a crucial role in maintaining unity while respecting cultural and social differences. For **+3 Political Science Honours (NEP 2020)** students, understanding these concepts is essential for analyzing citizenship, democracy, social justice, and contemporary political challenges.

Thank You