

The State and political science

State is the most important among the socio-political institutions that human beings have formed. Why?

The protection of the life and property of the people, implementation of public welfare activities, and to effectively interfere in crucial situations can only be done by the state. State is a universal, powerful and indispensable institution

Who was the first person coined the term 'State'? Nicholo Machiavelli

What is state? Find out the basic factors of a state. Explain

A group of people residing permanently within a particular territory with a sovereign government is called state.

Population	Territory	Government	Sovereignty
Population is an indispensable factor in the formation of a state. For the existence of a state, the people should live unitedly with mutual understanding, inter dependence and common public interest. There is no state without people. However, the minimum and the maximum number of people for a country are not fixed. Population which is too much or too less is not good for a state.	Territory is an important factor for the formation of a state. A state should have an exact territory with clearcut boundary. The state is formed when the people settle permanently in a particular territory. The state should have complete control over its territory. The land area, water bodies, coastal area, aerial space etc. within the boundaries are part of the territory.	Government is an unavoidable constituent of a state. On behalf of the state, the government makes and executes law and ensures justice to the people. Government ensures security and makes available different services to the people. The government may change from time to time but the state remains permanent.	The supreme authority of a state is called sovereignty. Sovereignty makes a state different from other institutions. A state cannot be constituted even if there is population, territory and government. Along with these, sovereignty should also be there for a state to be formed. Sovereignty is the absolute, unlimited and indivisible power of the state. It has two dimensions. Internal and External

What are the two dimensions of sovereignty?

Internal	External
The right to take decisions on all matters which come within its territory.	The right to take independent decisions on international issues

Write responsibilities of the government ?

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Maintain law and order
Increase employment opportunities
Implement developmental project
Protection of right
Implement welfare programmes

'The goal of the state is maximum happiness of the maximum number' who said this?

Jeremy Bentham

What is the difference between obligatory functions and discretionary functions?

Obligatory functions	Discretionary functions
Functions which have to be implemented by the state at all times at any cost are said to be	Discretionary functions are those which have to be implemented as per the economic

obligatory functions. State cannot abstain from its obligatory functions. The life and property of the people cannot be protected if the obligatory functions are not performed.	condition of the state. Implementation of functions like education, health care etc. will provide better living conditions for the people.		
Protection of boundary	Protection of health		
Maintain internal peace	Provide educational facilities		
Protection of rights	Implementation of welfare programmes		
Implementation of justice	Provide transportation facilities		
Theories on the origin of state			
Divine right theory	Evolution theory	Social contract theory	Power theory
State is the creation of God. King is the representative of God. King is answerable only to God.	State is the product of history. It was formed by social evolution.	State came into existence as a result of a contract by the people. State was constituted for the fulfillment of human needs.	State came into existence as a result of the establishment of power by the strong over the weak.
	Most acceptable theory is Evolution theory		

Which is the most acceptable theory? Why?

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The theory of evolution tells us that state was formed as a result of several social circumstances and it reached its present form through the process of evolution. State started as tribe, tribal administration and later developed as city state, empire state and feudal state. Today states are commonly known as Nation States because they are formed on the basis of a feeling of nationalism.

'A person who has the right to participate in the law making procedure and implementation of law is called the citizen of the state.' Political Science Who is the father of Political Science?

'Political Science is the study of state and government' who said this?

Aristotle, His book 'Politics'

What is Citizenship?

Citizenship is the full and equal membership in a nation. Citizenship enables a person to experience political and civil rights.

What are two types of citizenship? Compare

Natural citizenship	Acquired citizenship
Citizenship by birth is natural citizenship.	When a person acquires citizenship on the basis of the legal procedure of a nation, it is acquired citizenship.

What are the the different branches of study of Political Science?

Political theories	International politics	Comparative politics	Public administration
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Connection with of democracy, citizenship and political science

The concept of citizenship gained importance when democracy came into existence. In the execution of administration, democracy ensures the participation of the citizens through political rights.

At first Political Science took up the study of institutions like state and government and its functioning. As the democratic system emerged, the concept of political participation also gained prominence. As a result, in addition to the study of political institutions, the study of

political processes also became a part of political science.

Political Rights
Right to contest election
Right to vote
Right to form organisation
Right to criticise Govt.
Right to hold public office

'The result of your political inactivity is that you will be ruled by people inferior to you' **Plato**

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Civic Consciousness

Every individual in the modern society is known as citizen. Civic consciousness is the recognition that each citizen is for the society and the genuine interests of the society are the interests of the citizen.

Morality

Morality means the ability to recognize virtues from vices, accept virtues and to perform duties with utmost responsibility. It is the moral responsibility of each individual to perform the duty towards the society and the state.

The main challenge faced by civic consciousness is the mindset to do anything for the sake of one's own personal interest, by negating public interest. How can we overcome this challenge?

Each one should evaluate his activities critically.

Should work for one's interest without going against public interest.

- Be the change which you expect from others.
- Equal weight should be given to both rights and duties.
- Individuals should act democratically and tolerably.

How social science learning can be utilised for the formulation of civic consciousness.

Equips the individuals to respect diversity and to behave with tolerance.

Helps to understand the different contexts of political, social, economic and environmental problems.

Equips the individual to suggest comprehensive solutions to different problems.

Disseminate the message of peace and co-operation to the society.

Makes the individual civic conscious and action oriented by familiarising the ideal models and activities of civic consciousness.

Media

Media plays an important role in the formulation of civic consciousness. Print and electronic media influences the society tremendously. News and information reach the masses through the media. Judicious and objective information lead to the formulation of creative ideas. Media should be independent and impartial. The information from the media should be evaluated critically.

Education

The primary aim of education is to equip the individual to effectively utilise the knowledge gained through the learning of different subjects for the betterment of society. Education will help to develop value consciousness, tolerance, leadership qualities, scientific temper, etc. Through education, science and technology can be effectively utilised in a useful manner to the society. Through value- oriented educational approach we can instil civic consciousness among the people.

Associations

There are several political, social, economic and cultural associations in our society. Such associations many a time equip the individuals to work voluntarily with a service mind. Several voluntary associations are working in the fields of protection of environment, protection of human rights, charity, etc.

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