

Class – XI
POLITICAL THEORY
CHAPTER-1
POLITICAL THEORY: AN INTRODUCTION

Question 1.

What do you mean by politics?

Answer:

Politics has been regarded as the study of the state or power or a struggle to attain power.

Question 2.

The government as a part of politics can affect on daily life of humans both in a useful and a harmful way. How?

Answer:

The government in a useful manner can frame foreign policy, educational policy and economic policy to benefit the people.

The government in a harmful manner can lead to violent protests in response to various conflicts which may hamper the daily life of people.

Question 3.

What do we study in political theory?

Answer:

We study certain values and principles and ideals also which inspired people and guided policies like democracy, freedom, equality, etc.

Question 4.

Who wrote the Hind Swaraj?

Answer:

Mahatma Gandhi wrote the Hind Swaraj.

Question 5.

Who argued first that equality was as crucial as freedom?

Answer:

Rousseau

Question 6.

‘Human beings are unique’. Give any two arguments.

Answer:

- i. Human beings possess reasons for any action and they have the ability to react upon actions also.
- ii. Human beings are capable to converse and debate and discuss the issues.

Question 7.

Mention the characteristics to constitute the politics.

Answer:

- i. Politics is found in a political system.
- ii. Politics is about power.
- iii. Politics involves an activity.

Question 8.

Why should we study political theory?

Answer:

- i. We should study political theory for the following reasons:
- ii. It is relevant for all the professions except engineers, doctors, or mathematicians.
- iii. To have a basic knowledge of political ideals and information's to shape public opinion.
- iv. It encourages us to examine our ideas and feelings about political activities.
- v. We can differentiate between just or unjust reactions and actions.

Question 9.

How can we show our interest in government?

Answer:

- i. Government's action deeply (Policies and Programmes) affect on us. Hence, we participate in the government's actions as follows:
- ii. To form associations
- iii. To organise campaigns on particular issues
- iv. We form a support of public opinion and target the governmental activities and goals
- v. We may protest and organise demonstrations if the government violates our rights and freedom.

Question 10.

What is a class?

Answer:

A class may be defined as a larger group of people to be different from each other in the following manner:

- i. By the place to be occupied in social production, i.e. master or slaves.
- ii. By their relations through the production activities, i.e. owners or non-owners.
- iii. By their role in social organisation, i.e. active members or followers.
- iv. By the mode of acquiring the share of social wealth, i.e. entrepreneurs or wage earners.

Question 11.

Mention the characteristics of a class struggle.

Answer:

- i. The conflicts arisen are the result of the society divided into various classes.

- ii. The ownership of means of production originate the classes.
- iii. The common interest is mainly associated with classes who are economically dominant.
- iv. These classes keep fighting with each other in case of opposition with each other.

Question 12.

‘Politics works as a pursuit of common good of people’. Justify the statement.

Answer:

- i. Politics implies to power to make laws and to enforce them for common good:

Common good is both an objective and a procedure to be followed.

- ii. Common good has been evolved with the growth of democracy.

Common good may be associated with the concept of welfare state.

- iii. Developing nations reflect common good in realization of objectives for welfare’ state while developed nations believe to common good to be the efforts of state.
- iv. Politics as a pursuit of common good:
- v. Politics discovers a ‘common’ in all and promoter the spirit of ‘common hood’ among people.
- vi. Politics does not refer to class struggle but it is a class permeation.
- vii. The common good serves all the people living in society in place of individuals’ interests only.
- viii. It begins with the establishment of social order and ends up in a state to serve all.

Question 13.

What are the differences between politics and political science?

Answer:

Politics:

- i. Politics may have different ideas to be argued upon.
- ii. Politics is associated with the satisfaction of wants.
- iii. Politics is sometimes considered to be what politicians do. But it associates them with teams due to their false commitments, etc.
- iv. Politics promotes the interests of an individual by all means.

Political Science:

- i. It is a scientific study of political ideas and principles.
- ii. Political Science shapes the government and public opinion in a well-mannered way.
- iii. Political science examines the defections, false commitment and false promises made by politicians.
- iv. Political Science examines the validity of concepts of equality, justice, freedom, democracy, secularism, etc.
- v. The philosophers in political science can generate the new ideas to mould society.

LIBERTY/FREEDOM

Question 1.

What do you know about Nelson Mandela?

Answer:

Nelson Mandela has been recognized as the greatest leader of South Africa who always fought against racial discrimination.

Question 2.

Name the autobiography of Nelson Mandela.

Answer:

Long Walk of Freedom.

Question 3.

What is the theme of 'Long Walk of Freedom'?

Answer:

- i. Personal struggle of Nelson Mandela against Apartheid.
- ii. Resistance of people to the segregating policies of the White minorities.

Question 4.

What do you mean by Apartheid?

Answer:

Apartheid is a policy of racial discrimination between the Blacks and the Whites, which was largely practised after Second World War.

Question 5.

What is freedom?

Answer:

Freedom refers to an individual who is allowed to do all those things which do not harm anyone but, essential for one's own development.

Question 6.

Mention the two aspects of freedom.

Answer:

Positive and negative freedom.

Question 7.

What is personal liberty?

Answer:

Personal liberty refers to have freedom in personal and individual matters by human beings as marriages, religion, food, clothing, etc.

Question 8.

What is economic liberty?

Answer:

Economic liberty refers to ensure employment to the citizens and to make them free from tyranny of employers also along with the provisions of minimum wages also.

Question 9.

What is political liberty?

Answer:

- i. It exists only in democracy.
- ii. Citizens participate in government by choosing their representatives.
- iii. Citizens have the right to be elected themselves also.

Question 10.

What is religious liberty?

Answer:

The citizens enjoy the right to adopt and preach any religion without interference of state until it is in the interest of nation and individuals.

Question 11.

What is natural liberty?

Answer:

Natural liberty refers to a man to be born free. With the advancement of civilisation, men formed the state or society himself and sacrificed his freedom. In his Free State or natural liberty man was very happy and satisfied. But state binds him everywhere on chain.

Question 12.

What is a legal liberty?

Answer:

Legal liberty or freedom refers to framing of one's own constitution by any country to run their administrative system as per their own will.

Question 13.

What is freedom of speech and expression?

Answer:

Freedom of speech and expression gives the right to express one's own ideas by speaking or writing. But the freedom is subject to the following limitations:

- i. Defamation of any citizen
- ii. Security of state
- iii. Contempt of court
- iv. Friendly relations with foreign countries.

Question 14.

How can we argue in favour of positive freedom?

Answer:

- i. Positive freedom refers to the absence of unjust and oppressive restraints.
- ii. To provide equal opportunities to all for self-development in a full potential.

Question 15.

What is the value of freedom for human progress?

Answer:

Every individual is free to act to the extent that one's activities do not curtail the freedom of others. Some restraints are put on freedom to limit one's activities to avoid any type of harm to anybody or state or society, whichever is considered essential.

Question 16.

What are the two aspects of positive liberty?

Answer:

- i. Adequate measures are supposed to be given for the freedom of citizens.
- ii. No conflict should be arisen between the individual and society.

Question 17.

What does the negative liberty stand for?

Answer:

- i. Negative liberty refers to limit state interference.
- ii. Open competition is the best means of development.
- iii. But, it has following drawbacks:
- iv. It is not possible in civilized life.
- v. Absence of all restraints is neither practical nor desirable.

Question 18.

“Liberty implies proper restraints rather than absence of restraints”. Justify the statement.

Answer:

- i. Liberty refers to the absence of restraints upon the existence of those social conditions which are mandate guarantee of individual happiness.
- ii. It is the duty of the state to create the opportunity to be developed best by an individual.

Question 19.

What are the necessary safeguards for the maintenance of liberty?

Answer:

- i. Distribution of powers between the center and the state to make constituent units independent.
- ii. Constitution guarantees fundamental rights not to be violated by any government.

- iii. Independent judiciary has been set up as a guardian of rights.
- iv. Democratic set up protects the authorities from becoming autocrats because persons in authority are to face elections at regular intervals.
- v. There should be no privileged classes in the society.

Question 20.

What is the relationship between liberty and authority? Explain.

Answer:

- i. The one who thinks freedom is to do whatever one likes to do, is a wrong opinion. So the authority imposes restrictions which are a number of times undesirable.
- ii. On the contrary, the basic idea is that liberty and authority goes hand-in-hand because authority not only guarantees the freedom but equal opportunities also.
- iii. Both authority and liberty must remain within their limits for the existence of both the state and individuals.
- iv. If one crosses the limits, one is bound to destroy the purpose for which it was being maintained.
- v. Excess of liberty may destroy authority and concentration of authority can abolish the existence of liberty.

Question 21.

Mention the elements of liberty.

Answer:

- i. Liberty is not the absence of all restraints because peace and order in the society can be maintained only by putting some constraints on people.
- ii. Freedom refers to power to do something worthy which should be desirable in society.
- iii. Freedom is given to everybody on equal basis in place of giving to a particular person.
- iv. Liberty or freedom can be enjoyed only in society within a positive framework.

Freedom provides an opportunity to an individual to realise the best of one in one-self as per one's potential.

Question 22.

Explain different kinds of liberty.

Answer:

- i. Natural liberty is natural to man who is born free with it. But it has no existence in civilized society.

Individual liberty refers to enjoy complete freedom in their personal and individual matters, i.e. food, clothing, religion, shelter, etc. But an individual should get the liberty up to the extent not to harm any other individual.

- ii. Political freedom refers to the complete freedom to citizens to participate in formation of government and to elect their representatives as well as to be elected as a representative.
- iii. Economic liberty refers to equal wages and work opportunities to all and absence of exploitation, unemployment, unfair wage, insecurity, etc.
- iv. Religious liberty refers to the rights to adopt and preach any religion of their choices and no interference from the state in this matter.

- v. Civil liberty refers to enjoy all liberties to be permissible under the laws and everybody should be treated as equal before law.

Chapter-4

Social Justice

Question 1.

Define justice.

Answer:

Justice relates all individuals with each other and connects with the fact as to what type of moral, social, economic, political, legal relations are developed together between individuals.

Question 2.

Whose duty was to maintain dharma in the society?

Answer:

The kings' primary duty was to maintain dharma in the society.

Question 3.

Who was Glaucon?

Answer:

A friend of Socrates, famous thinker of ancient Greece.

Question 4.

Who wrote Republic?

Answer:

Plato, a famous philosopher of Greece wrote 'Republic'.

Question 5.

Who was Immanuel Kant?

Answer:

Immanuel Kant was a German philosopher who gave due and equal considerations to all individuals.

Question 6.

Who was Confucious?

Answer:

Confucious was a Chinese philosopher to argue to maintain justice to punish wrong-doers and rewarding the virtuous ones

Question 7.

Why do some people state “Justice delayed is justice denied”?

Answer:

Because if a decision is delayed too long, the aggrieved person may not receive any benefit from judicial proceedings, i.e. if person is dead what is the use of getting a decision in favour.

Question 8.

What does Socrates state about justice?

Answer:

Socrates states that justice involves well-being of all people including enemies also.

Question 9.

What is just society in the words of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar?

Answer:

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar said that a society in which ascending sense of reverence and descending sense of contempt is dissolved into the creation of compassionate society.

Question 10.

What are the principles of justice?

Answer:

Equal treatment for equals.

Provision of minimum standard of living and equal opportunities to the needy.

Recognition of different efforts and skills during rewards and responsibilities.

Question 11.

Who is John Rawls?

Answer:

John Rawls is a political philosopher who propounded the theory of veil of ignorance, i.e. rational justification for acknowledging the need to provide help to the least privileged members of society.

Question 12.

How has India ensured social justice?

AnswerP:

Social justice refers to no discrimination among citizens on any ground. India has ensured social justice:

- Political authority establishes an equal society through legislature and executive.
- No discrimination is made on any ground guaranteed by the constitution under rights against exploitation.

Question 13.**What are political dimensions of justice?**

Answer:

- People enjoy universal adult franchise.
- Government influences serve the interests of all people.
- People enjoy the opportunities co put pressure on the government.

Question 14.**What are economic dimensions of justice?**

Answer:

- Every individual should access the same respectable way to earn one's livelihood and sufficient wages.
- Government should provide social security in the form of scholarships, reservations, economic aid to unprivileged sections, etc.
- There should be equal pay for equal work.
- Private ownership over land, resources should be abolished.

Question 15.**What is moral justice?**

Answer:

Moral justice refers to natural principles, i.e.:

- To speak truth
- To show kindness
- To keep up the promises
- To behave liberally.

Question 16.**What are liberalists' and Marxists' views of justice?**

Answer:

- Liberalists' view of justice emphasizes on individual liberty, freedom and its expression and state intervention is minimal.
- Marxist view of justice emphasizes on just distribution of wealth and property, i.e. from each according to his ability to each according to his needs.

Question 17.**What is social justice? Mention its main features also.**

Answer:

Social justice refers to all the people living in a society are equal:

- All the people should enjoy the equal opportunities to develop one's own potential and personalities.
- In order to attain social justice, caste and colour discrimination should be abolished. Hence, the Constitution of India has banned untouchability and misbehavior legally.
- There should be no discrimination on the use of public places, i.e. free access to the use of parks, cinemas, schools, wells, tanks and shops.

Question 18.**What do you mean by protective discrimination?**

Answer:

If a government takes some steps for the betterment of weaker society, known as protective discrimination as:

- It implies discrimination in favour of weaker section and unprivileged section of society.
- The reservation is given to scheduled castes and tribes and OBC's.
- These sections are not provided with the special advantages to a particular section but raise them to a level to compete with other sections of society on equal footing.
- Thus, the protective discrimination removes the imbalances from the society.

Question 19.

What is economic justice? Mention some features of economic justice.

Answer:

Economic justice refers to providing an equal opportunity to the citizens to acquire their basic needs or livelihood:

- It refers to providing basic minimum needs to one and all the citizens in the society, i. e. no one should be exploited economically.
- Equal wages should be given to the workers in the factories, clerks in the offices whose work is similar.
- It refers that a man should work according to his capacity and earn sufficient money to meet out basic needs in society.

Question 20.

What is concept of justice as per Plato?

Answer:

For Plato, justice implies a life of people conforming to the rules of functional specialisation means that one man should practice only one thing to which his nature is best suited:

- Plato refers justices to be related with social order. He explains justice for the individual and the state on the basis of tripartite theory of appetite, courage and wisdom.
- There are three classes in a society corresponding three elements of soul, i.e. producers, militia and the ruler means harmonious order between these classes.
- When each class minds one's own business without meddling in other classes, justice exist in the state.
- In the individuals justice consists in keeping a balance between different elements.

Question 21.

What are the different kinds of concepts of justice?

Answer:

Justice refers to faithful realization of existing laws against any arbitrary dealing and the ideal element in law to which a good law should aspire for. Justice can be classified as:

1. Social justice:

- No discrimination should be made among the citizens of country on the ground of religion, colour, caste, race, language, etc.
- Equal opportunities should be provided to one and all for one's own development,
- An equality based society should be established.

2. Political justice:

- To exercise political power to serve the interests of all
- Every citizen should enjoy their right to vote without any discrimination.

- Every person should have the right to contest elections at par.
- Every citizen should have an opportunity to put pressure on government.

3. Economic justice:

- It refers to provide equal opportunities to one and all to earn money and to spend to meet the needs of life.
- National income and resources should be evenly distributed among all the people.
- Economic welfare of weaker section should be looked after.

4. Moral justice:

- Natural principles exist in the universe.
- To determine mutual relations among individuals.
- Speaking the truth, showing kindness, keeping the promises, behaving liberally, etc.

5. Legal justice:

- To frame genuine legislation to be enforced by law.
- Equal provisions of punishments should also be made without any partiality.
- State established justice by means of law.

Question 22.

Mention the steps taken by Constitution of India to ensure social justice.

Answer:

This is the duty of state to establish a society based on equality through executives and legislatives:

- Article 39 A (42nd Amendment) provides that state shall try to secure equal justice and free legal aid to its citizens.
- Article 42 states that the state shall make provisions to secure just and human conditions.
- Article 46 provides that the state shall promote the educational and economic interests of weaker sections of society especially for SC's, ST's and to protect them from social injustice.
- Article 46 says that the state shall within the limits of its economic capacity make provisions for securing the right to work, to education and to public assistance in areas of unemployment, old age and sickness, etc.

Question 23.

What measurements have been taken by India to secure social justice?

Answer:

- The preamble to the constitution of India declares its objectives to ensure social, economic and political justice.
- Since independence, various programmes have been set up to eradicate poverty in India.
- The Antyodaya Schemes have been launched for the upliftment of the poorest.
- The government has launched five year plans and many other programmes also for downtrodden people.
- To improve special status of SCs and STs, government has made provisions for their reservations in educational institutes and government jobs.
- The government of India assures right also to poor and and downtrodden people in education, age, sickness or any other disablement.

