

Q-1 Explain Plato's Theory of Justice. How he tries to Implement it through the Education System?

Answer:

Introduction:

Plato's ideal state is based upon Justice. According to him, justice is fundamental right of every man. He has regarded Justice as the true Principle of social life and has regarded his acclaimed book The Republic. He draws inspiration from his teacher Socrates. In Implementation of Justice, Plato proposed a system of Education.

Context behind Plato's Theory of Justice.

In time of Plato (427-347 B.C.). In Athens bifurcation between rich and poor, oppress and oppressed were observed. Plato observed the form of Govt. was at fault. The System did not ensure justice.

Justice is an important aspect for all human beings. People of any country cannot enjoy a healthy and wealthy life without the mutual cooperation and having the right of Justice.

Theory of Justice

According to Barker,

"Justice is, for Plato, at once a part of human virtue and the bond which joins men together in the state. It makes man good and make him social"

## Division of population.

Plato divided the population into three classes

class	Trait	work
Ruler	Reason	Govern the Society
worker	Appetite	Marketing/Labouring
Warrior	Courage	Defense

"Performance of duty as per one's predominant trait" is "personal Justice"

Prevalent traits in humans are Reason, Appetite and Courage. Out of three traits one is predominant in humans. Division of classes as determined by pre dominant trait shall achieve justice at social level.

As far as justice is concerned, it should be equally provided to all classes without determining any status.

"Justice is not the Interest of strong but all."

### 2- Attempt for Justice Yourself:

It is the responsibility of each class of people to take its fundamental rights, and if justice is not provided to them, they may unite themselves against rulers and approach to law authorities. Everybody should know justice can be achieved by struggling hard.

## Important Features of Platonic

### Theory of Justice

Prof. G.H. Sabine writes in his book namely, "A History of Political Theory":

"Justice is a bond which holds society together in harmonious union of individuals, each of whom has found his work in accordance with his natural fitness and training"



## Non Interference in other's Affairs

Theory of Justice is dependent upon the spirit of non-interference. The view of the Plato was that everyman should do that job which is his pre-dominant trait. The interference in other's affairs is not only against the requirement of Justice but also cause chaos and irreparable loss.

### ⑥ Principle of Mutual Cooperation and Harmony.

To Plato, Justice is the harmonious balancing and the operation of life among the three class i.e. Soldier, ruler & worker in the state.

### ⑦ Man importance lies only in being a member of Society

Plato's theory of Justice is against the individuality. According to theory, the individual should not think about that he is alone but he should think about himself as part of the whole.

### ⑧ Moral Concept rather than legal

Plato does not consider justice as formal and external thing but he considers it as quality of soul and speciality of mind. Justice means serve to humanity and serve to mankind.

### ⑨ Specialisation of duties.

Plato's view that administration of ideal state should be specified and everyman has no concern to interfere with the other's affairs.

## Main Features of Plato's Education.

The role played by education in Plato's state is so striking that some philosopher call it to be the chief topic of "Republic" so that is why Rousseau said, "Republic" is hardly a political

ord at all, but it is the finest treaty on education that ever was written."

"Education is an attempt to touch evil at its source"

(Plato)

Plato has presented the following suggestions.

"There are only two ways to take hold of this problem (injustices). Either the special hindrance to good citizenship be removed, or the positive condition of good citizenship maybe developed. The first result in the theory of Communism and second in the theory of Education."

Plato- (in the republic)

Therefore the enforcement of justice is done either by communism or by education.

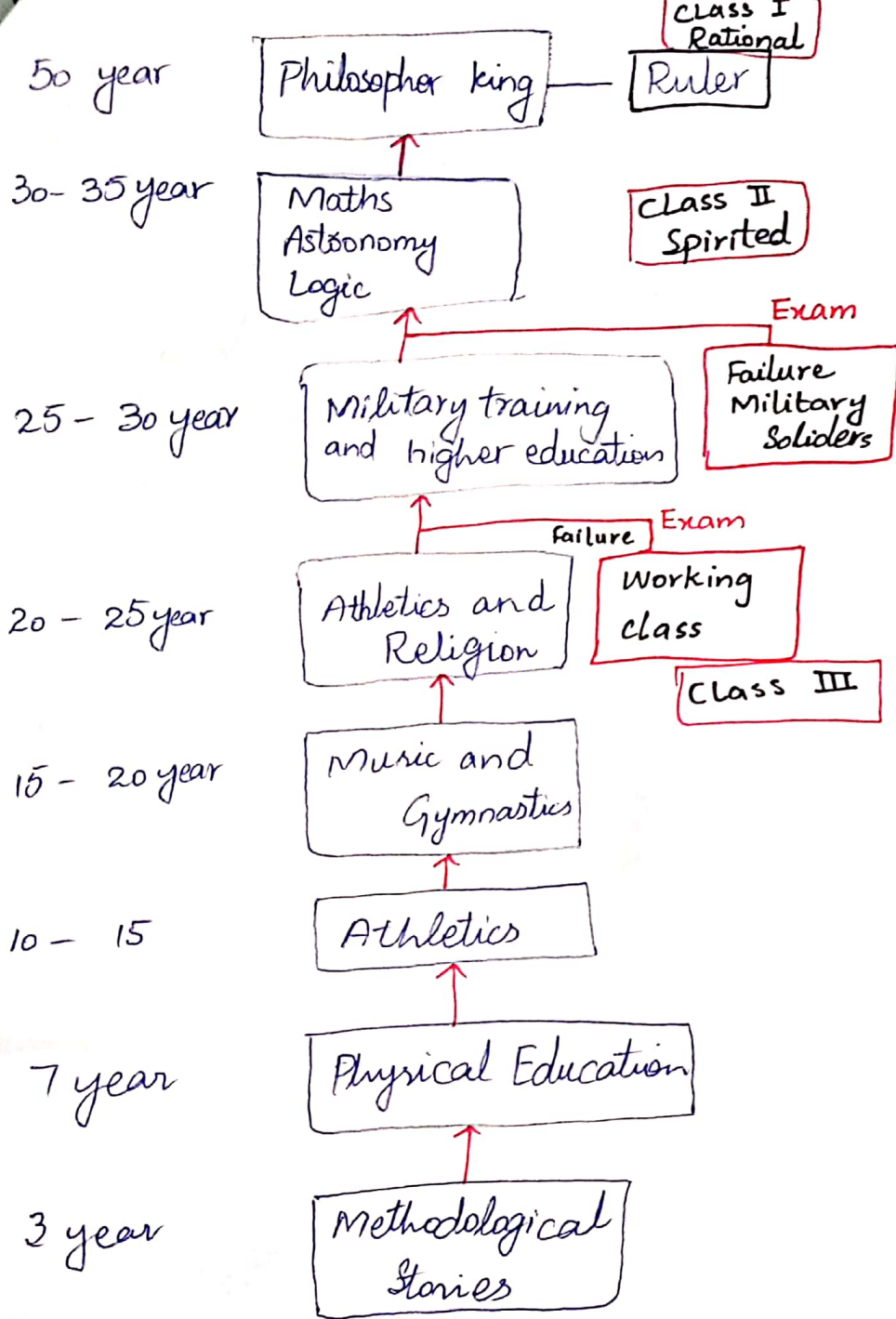
### Main Feature of Plato's Education

- State controlled system where education is made compulsory for all.
- Mental and physical development. It was aimed at full fledged development of human personality.
- Stress on gymnastics, military training, musical for physical and mental development of the member of society.

### Meaning behind Platonic Education

- Plato education system was aimed to maintain justice in the society.





### Criticism on Plato Theory of Justice and Education

Justice: Plato's Theory of Justice put forward has been criticized on following ground:

- Application of Plato's Theory.

Plato theory of Justice cannot be applied on modern State. In Plato's era, there were civilian states. The population of such state were very less than today's state. So Plato Theory of Justice only valid for small states

Plato's Theory Specifies the Right of Government.

Plato in ~~view~~ view of his theory of justice specifies the right of Govt. only to philosopher king, though it is important to establish monopoly of political power in hands of one class of people.

△ Separation of Three elements of Human Beings.

Plato separates the three elements of human i.e. ruler, spirited and worker. Plato specifies that each individual should concentrate himself to the growth of only one element.

Education

Platonic education system is based on a narrow conception

- Education is co-existence with the life
- Prejudice against the working class.
- Jowett finds the use of music and absolute control of soul over the body to be self contradictory statements.

Conclusion

Plato proposed a system of justice and its implementation through a system of education by dividing the society into three classes ruler, soldier and worker based on their qualities. According to Plato justice was "giving each what was due". Each class must act according to their predominant traits and do not interfere in other affairs.