

Critically analyze the features of Plato's Republic. Do you think some of its features are valid even today?

start with the introduction of the question.

Plato's Republic is his idea of Justice, its definition and full content.

Every writer has his own way of conveying his ideas. Shakespeare wrote plays, Milton wrote poetry and Plato's style is dialogic. He mentioned a dialogue where on one side is Socrates (his teacher) and on the other side are some Greek philosophers.

Cephalus, an old wealthy man describes justice as speaking truth and paying debts.

Polymarchus, his son, agrees with him and said justice is giving everyone his due.

Socrates stops him and asks him ~~if~~ does he intended

to say that doing good with
friends and doing bad with
enemies. Polymachus agrees.
Socrates diminishes his thought
says that doing bad would make
the enemies even more worse.
Thrasymachus says justice is
interest of the stronger. Might
is right. ~~Plato~~ Socrates denies
all the definitions of Justice
given by them. For Socrates
Justice is highly related to man's
soul. Thus, Plato reaches to
his real task, which is constan-
-tion of ideal just state.

Silent features of Plato's Republic

1- Division of society

As per Plato, there are three
motivational forces in a human

- Hunger / Desire
- Bravery / Courage
- Wisdom

He said ~~most~~ ^{all} of the people exist on earth have three forces to some extent, but one of them is dominant force. He further said collect those whose dominant force is hunger and put them in one class. They are producers. These are usually high in number. Next collect those whose dominant force is courage and put them in another class which is soldiers. There are very few people would be gifted with wisdom as their dominant force. They are rulers. Thus, Plato divides society into 3 classes.

- 1- Producers: They will produce material things for others
- 2- Soldiers: They will be allocated for the defense
- 3- Rulers: They will rule over the state.

But the criteria to decide

Date _____

category for each is education

2- Education

Plato said, education should be controlled by the state as its very important to make a state a welfare state. He said education should be provided to every one. From 1 to 7 years, child should be responsibility of parents. They have to educate him by telling the stories of patriotism. Then state take responsibility of education from 7 to 18 years and teach them only 2 subjects Music and Gymnastic. After that there should be a military training for 2 years. A screening test should be taken from them and those who fail should be considered as producers.

After that 15 year higher education should be given and

divide into subheadings.

work on paper presentation. highlight headings and references.

for first 10 years Maths and
Astronomy should be taught
and remaining 5 years should
-d be utilized for teaching
dialogue, direct, philosophy,
and Q & As.

Screening should be continued
along with the study and those
who fail but are courageous
enough should be considered
as soldiers.

After that 15 years of practi-
-cal knowledge is also requir-
-ed. They need to serve to
fields for practical work.
There would very a few
people who qualify all the
tests and make them rules.
Do not make any law for
them as whatever they speak
is law. They have proved
their wisdom.

3- Equality

Plato said all the members of the state should be given an equal opportunity, irrespective of gender like Male, female and race or financial status.

4- Justice

For Plato Justice is giving every man his due. In Plato's state all three classes are created based on the ability. So those who deserve to be rulers are given opportunity and those who deserve to be soldiers are also given equal opportunity and those who are able to produce for state are also considered equally. When the job is given to a person based on his/her interest and ability then he/she will enjoy doing it.

5- Absoluteness

Plato said there should be no-interference among all these classes. Since all ~~have~~ ^{are} qualified for their ~~tasks~~ ^{tasks} so they all are justified enough in their work. They have competency to perform their duties.

6- Aristocracy

Plato said only couple of people would be there who will be able to qualify for rulers. So his republic consists of few rulers who will rule over the state and no law or constitution would be there which can be applied on them.

7- Rule of Philosophers

Plato said rulers must be philosophers as they have ability or tendency to differentiate between appearance and reality.

Plato's education consists of teaching philosophy as according to Plato philosophers are statesmen who virtue with their actions.

8- Restriction on harmonical literature
 Plato said banish poets as they show an imaginary world that don't even exist. They divert us from reality. And while teaching literature to children beware of such things

Criticism

1- Division of society

Practically it's not possible to divide the society. There may exist other talents as well

This is the boring concept where every one is doing / learning same thing ~~last~~ for so many years just to identify class.

2- Degeneracy in Education scheme
 Plato did not allow higher edu-
 cation for producers. One should
 have skills to work in any
 field. Secondly Plato did
 not mention about economics,
 political science, psychology
 for rulers. They need to learn
 this to run the ~~country~~ state
 take decisions. Thirdly 50 years
 of education are too much for
 a person.

3- No check and balance
 Plato ~~contributes~~ promotes
 the principle of

non-interference. Absoluteness
 leads to dictatorship and thus
 -ing absence of constitution or
 law for rulers it may make
 violation of fundamental rights
 easier.

4- Communism is against nature.

Marriage and family is in human nature. This feature is against human nature and it may leads to ~~losing~~ many good rules just because they are interested in family.

(Remaining silent feature)

7- Communism

1- Communism of property

Plato said do not give right to rulers or soldiers to make private property. There focus should be only on ~~state~~ state affairs

2- Communism of family

Plato gave the concept of common wives so that it's not possible to identify which child is of which ruler. He said ~~family~~ family enforces to make ~~property~~ property and ~~great~~ great

attention to other matters.

Features valued in today's era

1- Equality

Equal opportunity ~~to~~ education should be provided to all. This feature is valued for schools as in our state only rich can afford good education.

2- Justice

Identifying one's ability and assign him tasks as per that. This can also be applied today as many people study to earn and they don't do where they are interested and able.

3- State controlled education

Today the education has been privatized. Although, government

educational institutions exist
but their education is not satis-
factory. So state should take
control of all the education
in order to ~~make~~ it affordable

arguments are good.

improve structure and
presentation.

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