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← ( Part - II ) →

Section - I

Question. NO. 2.

Compare and contrast the different Political philosophies of Hobbes and Locke  
How are these philosophies implemented in the present day political systems and policy making?

**Introduction:**

Political philosophies of Hobbes and Locke refers to the political speculations about the first period of human existence. ~~They~~ These political philosophies aim at the explanation of the origin and jurisdiction of state. The political philosophies of Hobbes and Locke share many similarities. Regardless of the resemblance, there is also contrast between their political

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philosophies. The implementation of these political philosophies can be witnessed seen in the present political system.

### Comparison of Hobbes's and Locke's political philosophies:

Despite many differences <sup>between</sup> Hobbes's and Locke's political philosophies, there are many similarities which can be seen in the following upcoming paragraphs:

#### A. personal profile Hobbes and Locke:

Both Hobbes and Locke share some common features. The first and the foremost commonality between Hobbes and Locke that they belong to the same country. Thomas Hobbes was born in England, studied at oxford and gave political theory -

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about the origin of state. Similarly, Locke <sup>was</sup> also born in England, studied at Oxford and gave political theory about the origin of state. Thus, they both were political theorists.

### B - Foundation of social contract

Thomas Hobbes founded his political theory i.e. social contract theory based on political speculation <sup>imagining</sup> the first period of human existence. Hobbes begins his theory by explaining human nature. As Judd Homan says: "In proposing a political theory founded upon ~~the~~ a conception of human nature" (p. 222). Likewise, Hobbes, Locke also founded his political theory based on speculation <sup>imagining</sup> the first period of existence of human nature. John Locke too begins his theory by explaining human nature.

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• To put it short, both founded their political philosophies on political speculations and begin their theories by explaining human nature.

### C. Similarities in the medium of the contract

Hobbes asserts that the contract was not in written form at the time people made it. rather it was in a verbal contract. people gathered into a place and spoke the contract. In the same way, John postulates that the contract was a spoken contract. people came to a place and surrendered some of their natural rights to a community as whole.

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## D. Resemblance in the purpose of the contract

According to Hobbes's philosophy, people gave up their right for the purpose of that their life would be protected because there was fear of death in state of nature. In the same manner, Locke states people entered into an agreement that the commonwealth would secure their rights, lives and property.

## E. Origin of the state

Both Hobbes and Locke state that state was originated out of the contract that people made.

Thomas Hobbes says that the state came into existence after the contract which was made <sup>carried out</sup> by people.

According to Hobbes state is artificial and it was created after the contract.

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Just as Hobbes, John Locke asserts that contract established the state. Locke says people were social in state of nature but political organization was formed after the contract.

Thus both states, that state came into being. When people entered into an agreement.

### F. Concept of Divine right:

Thomas Hobbes reject the concept of divine right. As Judd Harmon states:

"In explaining the origin of the state, Hobbes rejects the divine-right theory" p. 228.

In the same way, John Locke also refuted the theory of divine-right theory.

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## G. Justification of sovereign authority:

Both Hobbes and Locke give their political philosophy in order to justify the authority of sovereign.

## CONTRAST BETWEEN HOBBS'S and LOCKE'S POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY:

Regardless of the aforementioned similarities, there are many differences <sup>between</sup> their political philosophies.

### A Context of Hobbes and Locke

Thomas Hobbes and John Locke belong to different eras. During Hobbes's time there was fear of civil war and fear of Spanish invasion. In Hobbes words,

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" my mother gave birth to  
twins: myself and fear "

Hobbes says in his political theory, a powerful ruler was needed to end the fear. Hobbes lived in a time of civil war. Unlike Hobbes, John Locke lived in time of peace. There was no fear of Spanish invasion and of civil war. Since at the end of civil war, there was peace in England.

## B. Human Nature

Hobbes begins his political philosophy by explaining the dark side of human nature. He has pessimistic view of human nature. Hobbes asserts that man is individualistic, self-seeking, egoistic, monster -



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and cunning. Furthermore, Hobbes says that man is <sup>also</sup> wise which makes him worse. Contrary to Hobbes' philosophy of human nature, Locke has an optimistic view of nature. John Locke states human by nature is simple, social, rational, cooperative, positive, peaceful, caring and follows natural law.

## C State of Nature

Hobbes says that there was ~~not~~ "war of all against all in state of nature." "such a war as is of every man against every man" (p. 223), Judd Hamon. Hobbes further asserts that there was no concept of justice and injustice. The concept of might is right was prevalent. Life was poor brutish and short. In Hobbes's words ~~life was~~

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"The Life of man, solitary, poor, nasty, brutish and short" He

says that ~~here~~ man was living in the unsecured and undisciplined environment of a state of nature.

There was fear of death. There was no concept of good and bad, property and life of a man was at danger.

In contrast to Hobbes's state of nature, Locke states that there was no war in state of nature. There were freedom, and equality. man was living in peace, harmony, ~~and~~ life was certain and long. man was social and there was society in state of nature. In Locke words: 'No

one ought to harm another in his life ~~his~~ health, liberty, or possessions'

Judd Harmon's

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## D Social Contract

Hobbes points out that due to fear of death and insecurity

● In state of nature, people decided to enter into contract.

"The passions that incline men to peace, are fear of death" (p. 224) *ibid.*

As oppose to Hobbes, John Locke asserts that there was not fear of death. ~~It~~ rather life was peaceful. But there were three drawbacks due to which people enter into covenant. In Locke's words "There was not known law, a known and indifferant judge and last there was no executive power in state of nature" Locke states that because of these defects in state of nature, people decided to enter into contract.

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## E Nature of the contract:

The social contract of Hobbes was unilateral because the sovereign was not party to the contract and is not bound by it.

Furthermore, Hobbes's social contract is irrevocable. As Judd Harmon mentioned "Once the people have entered into the contract, it becomes permanently binding" (p. 228)

Unlike Hobbes, Locke's social contract is bilateral and revocable. John Locke states that the contract would be revoked if the trust is violated. In Locke words, "If there is a trust, its creator has the right to revoke it" (p. 252).

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## F Theory of Sovereign

According to Hobbes, the authority of the sovereign over all government functions is complete. He can exercise legislative and executive powers. The sovereign is the chief judicial officer.

This can be seen in the words of Hobbes

"All this authority must belong to the sovereign" Judd Harman

Mazhar Ul Haq also pointed out in his book political science theory and practice that "Hobbes based his theory of absolute sovereignty" (p. 171)

On the other hand, Locke's sovereign does not hold absolute authority as he himself says "The legislative power consists by the consent of the people" (p. 176) Mazhar Ul Haq. Thus, Locke favours political sovereignty, limited sovereignty.

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9. Their political philosophies and form of government:

Hobbes favours monarchy is a best form of government. As Judd Harmon states "Hobbes's predilection for monarchy is apparent throughout 'Leviathan' (p. 230)

In contrast to Hobbes, Locke favours and prefers representative democracy. He asserts that majority rule is <sup>essential</sup> for two reasons.

"majority rule is necessary for two reasons"

The first reason that it would create a single community and second the consent of each individual would be secured.

Sir Assalam alaikum!

Sir will it be okay  
if I write each paragraph  
like below ↓

⇒ **Nature of the contract:**

The social contract of  
Thomas Hobbes is unilateral and  
irrevocable while Locke's contract  
is revocable and bilateral.

Because if I write as I wrote  
above, it will be very lengthy  
question —

Kindly advice —

Thank you!