

## Discuss Dialectical method of Hegel

### Introduction to Hegelian dialectics

Hegel's dialectics is a way of thinking about the world that is constantly changing. Hegel believed that everything contained its opposites. These opposites are in the process of constant conflict and resolution.

This constant conflict leads to the process of development in which things keep on transforming from one thing to something new which is more complete.

### Stages of Hegelian dialectics

Its major stages include:

**Thesis:** Thesis is initial one-sided stance.



**Anti-thesis:** It is reaction to thesis. It is opposite and contrary to thesis

**Synthesis:** Synthesis is a new idea or state that emerges as a result of conflict between thesis and anti-thesis. It contains elements of both thesis and anti-thesis. It is formed as a result of sublation which means preserving some of their parts and negating others.

→ The synthesis then became the new stage and came up as thesis. The process again repeats and goes on.

**Applications;** According to Hegel

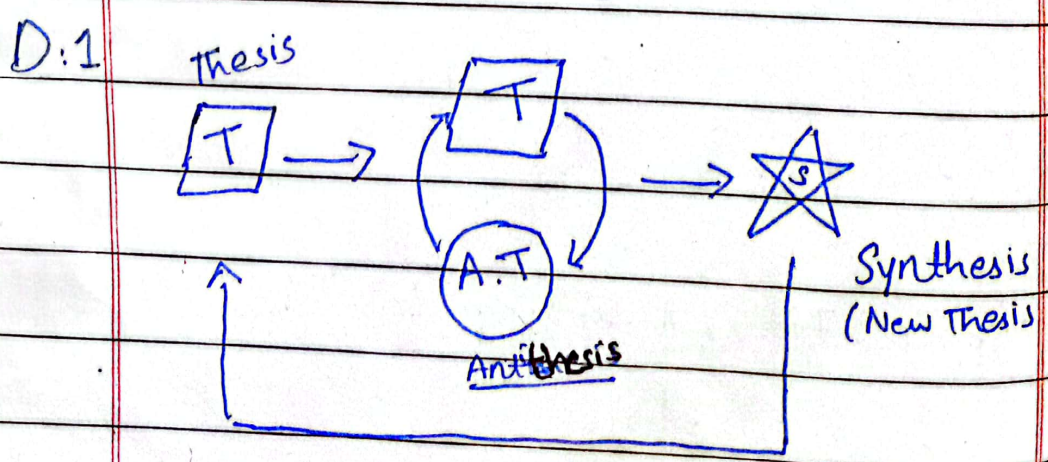
According to Hegel, this method is applicable in every field and is reason behind development in the every field.



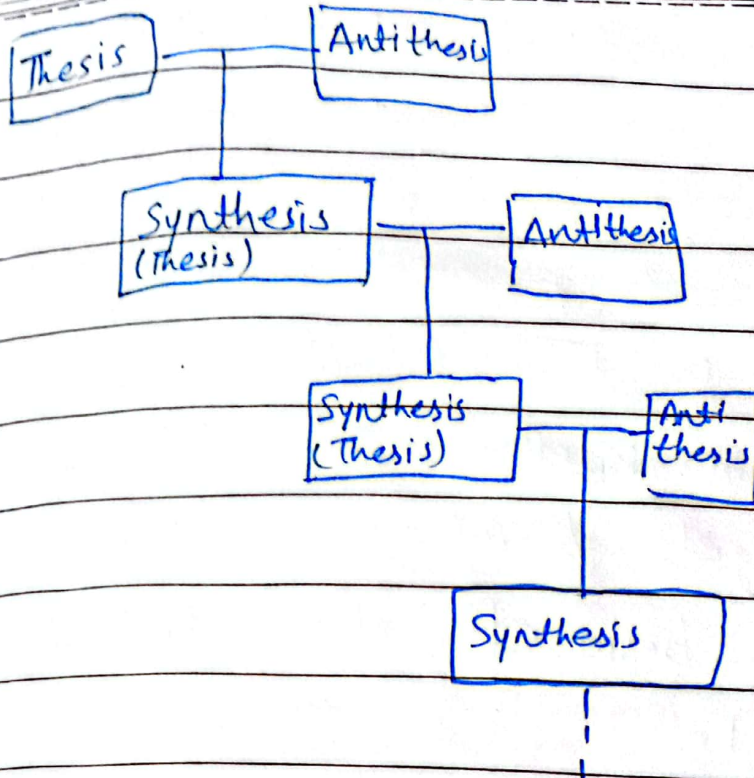
For instance, the development of history, philosophy, literature, art and every other thing over the time.

Hegel believed that set of ideas give rise to a stage in history but weaknesses in it leads to conflict. The conflict and contradiction then leads to another stage. Moving on, the conflict crisis and stages often kept on changing.

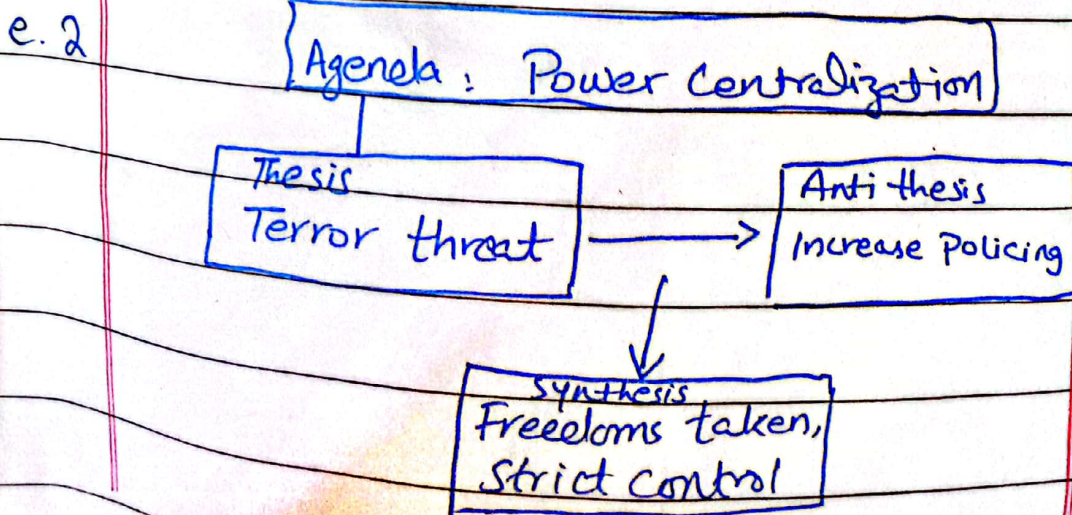
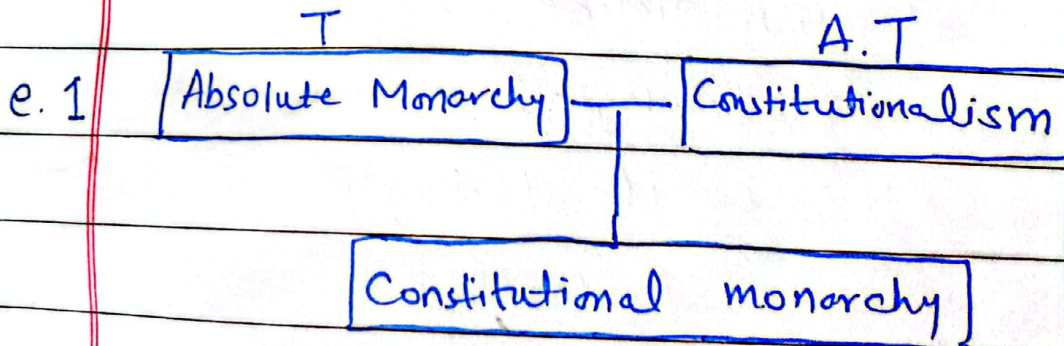
Diagram to understand Hegel's dialectics



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Example.





## Impact of Hegel's dialectics

Hegel's dialectics came to be most influential in 19<sup>th</sup> century and impacted philosophical thought at wide scale.

Even Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels built their theories on the basis of this dialectical method.

## Criticism on Hegelian dialectics

Hegelian dialectics are criticized for being teleological in nature as according to it history is moving towards a particular state which he called absolute. It has been rejected by almost all major philosophers of current era. It ignores the role of chance and contingency.

Moreover, another critique is that it is too abstract and does not take into account the complexities



of practical world. It ignores the role of matter, physical laws and concept of free will

### Conclusion

Hegelian dialectics are crucial and can be explained from various perspectives. It often later led to the development of further knowledge. Despite being influential, it did not remain exempted from criticism. However, in short, its importance cannot be ignored for western Philosophy.



# Make a critical analysis of Marx's ~~critical~~ Dialectical materialism

## Introduction:

Karl Marx, 19<sup>th</sup> century German Philosopher and one of most influential figure in the history of mankind, tried to understand the progress of mankind throughout the history and tried to find out the pattern of that development.

He then came with his theory of Dialectical materialism

Understanding Dialectical materialism: ① Basis

Marx' dialectical materialism has its roots in



the dialectical method of G. W. Hegel, and scientific materialistic conception of Feuerbach.

(ii) Era of Marx

Marx was from 19th Century, when Europe was industrializing at a rapid rate, but there was often extreme exploitation of masses. By looking at extreme devastation, Marx focused on understanding pattern in human history in order to predict future, and to eradicate humans from sufferings.

(iii) Dialectical Materialism: Marx Theory

Marx's Dialectical materialism is derived from two words



→ Dialectics: Progress happens as a result of contradiction between two opposing ideas or states

→ Materialism: Matter is fundamental while Ideas are reflections of it So,

Dialectical Materialism: Development occurs as a result of contradicting materialistic interests.

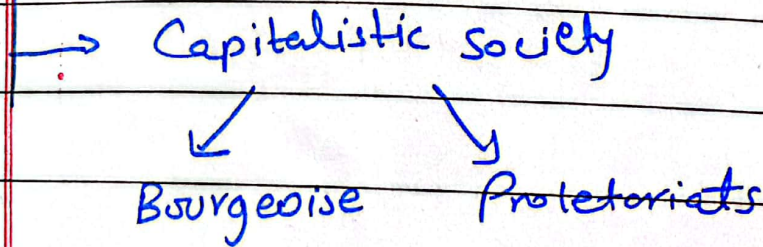
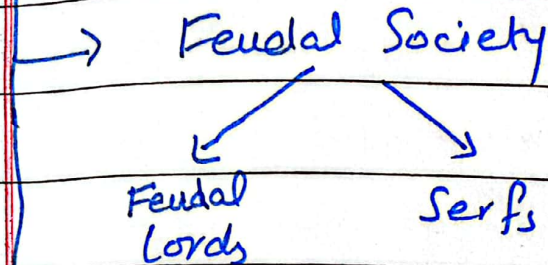
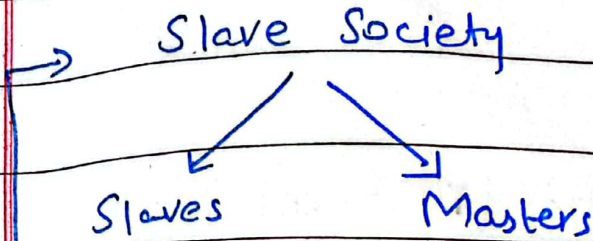
Hence, Marx explained all of human history on the basis of this dialectical materialism and concluded that:

All of human history is the story of class struggle. The struggle between classes having opposing materialistic interests. The relations between these classes also keep on changing with changing material



# conditions

As it can be understood through this example:



In all of above examples, which are from different times in history. There has been conflict between two classes. One class controls the material forces of production and others do not.



The Haves (owners) can be observed as minority but dominant class, and have nots (workers) as subservient class although having majority. But how can they control majority, the answer lies in ideological superstructure: By making up a complete societal structure based on religion, Education system, Constitution and purpose of all these is to protect the class division and injustice that is prevalent. But Marx gives that this system will not survive.

### Future Prediction By Marx

As discussed that this system will lead to more and more exploitation leading to revolt by Proletariats which will finally culminate into communist revolution. It will result into



Proletariat dictatorship, which will be a stateless & classless society and it will work on the base:

“From each one to his ability to <sup>every</sup> ~~others~~ according to his needs (Karl Marx)”

It will end the concepts of personal property and wealth accumulation.

### Analysis of Marx's Dialectical materialism

Marx theory shows the motion of history towards a particular end, but the communist experiment has not proved to be quite practical in recent century with many failing experiences whereas Capitalistic model, which is although reformed



to some extent has managed to grow extensively. Experimentation of Marx's theory has even led to more misery to human beings. Hence it proved to be not as practical as influential among humans (mostly youth).

Conclusion:

Karl Marx made an attempt to influence human society, and to make it a more livable place. It cannot be denied as a big contribution to knowledge which came with benefits and disadvantages along with it.